FEATURE STORY: AN **EXCLUSIVE** LOOK INTO THE FUTURE OF **SONIC** AND THE **FREEDOM FIGHTERS!**

MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER

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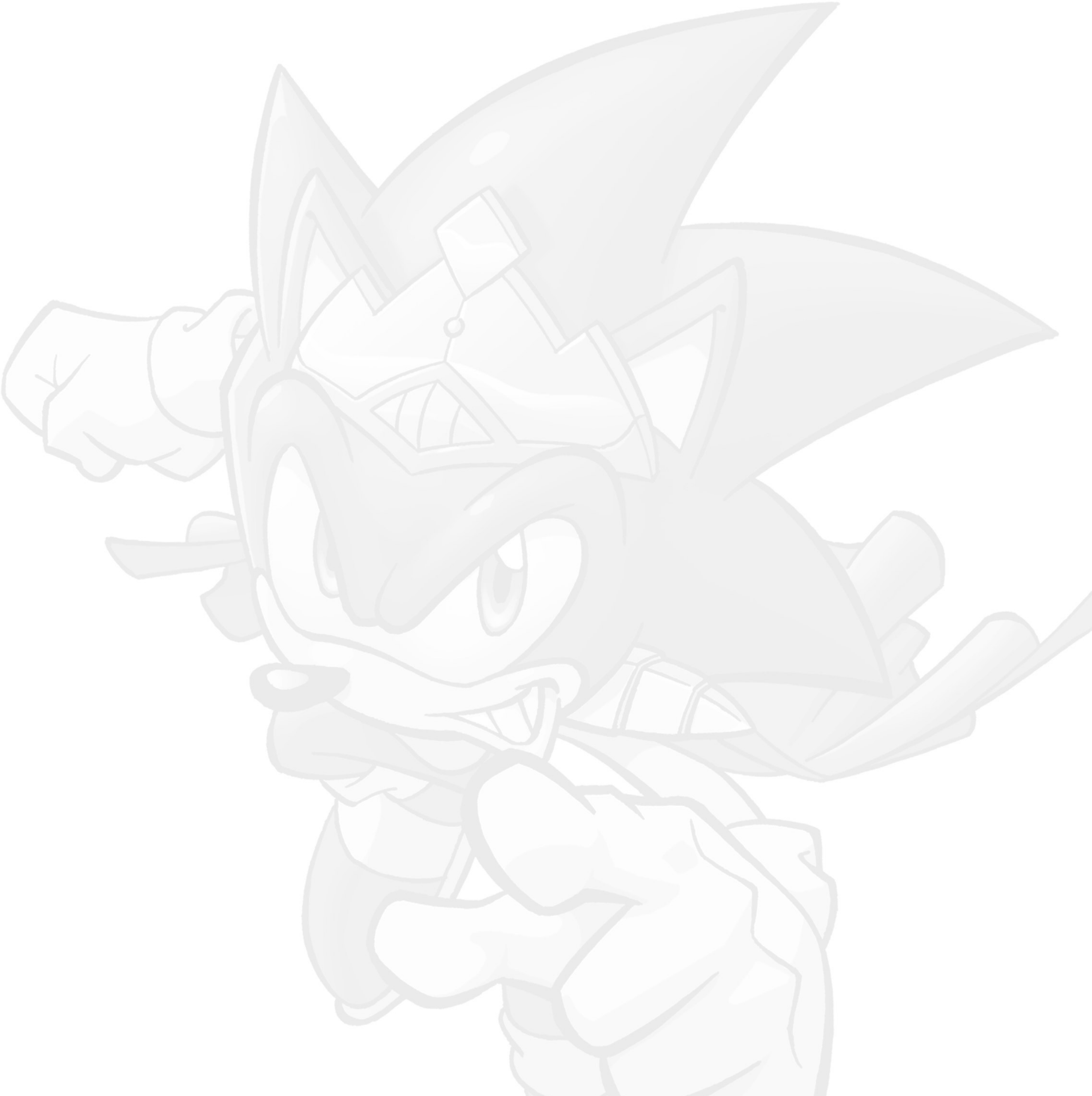
SEGA

ISSUE 4

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL



SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

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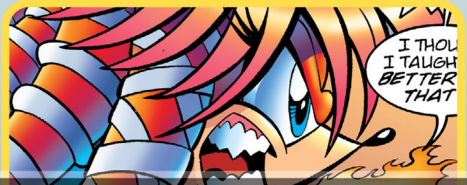
THE UNVEILING

Lara-Su is growing up -- but who ever said growing up is easy? Especially when you're daughter of Knuckles the Echidna, Guardian of Angel island!



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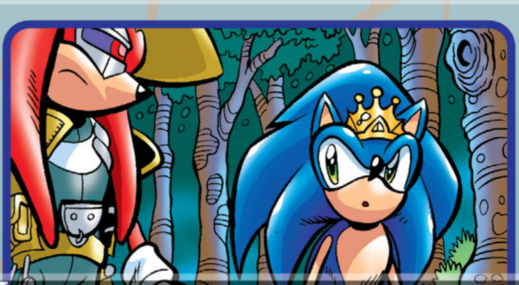
DEALING WITH THE DEVIL

Trouble is brewing on the planet Mobius and Lien-Da is out of the loop! It's a revelation that is literally world-shaking!



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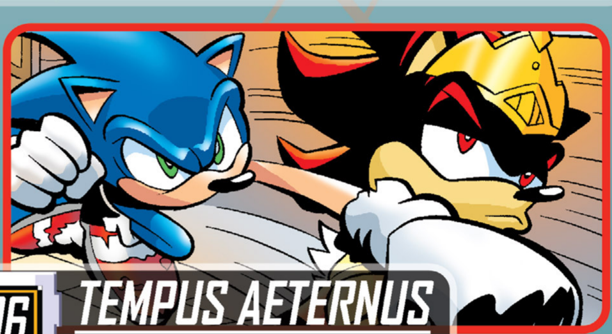
A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

Sonic and Knuckles investigate the mysterious circumstances surrounding the destruction of the planet Mobius, but have our heroes found more than they were looking for?



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TEMPUS AETERNUS

The final battle has begun, for the fate of the world now rests in the hands of everyone's favorite true blue king: Sonic the Hedgehog!

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SONIC GRAMS PRESENTS

HEY KIDS!

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YOU CAN ALSO WRITE
IN VIA E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM**

LETTERS

Welcome again to another edition of the Sonic Super Special Magazine, where we take you on a guided tour of the world of Sonic the Hedgehog! This issue we've got a special showcase of the *Mobius: 25 Years Later* storyline that continues to be a favorite with fans of the Sonic comic! Now, on to the letters! You shall all "have the usual!"

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',

Hey! Lovin' the Super Special magazine so far, I hope it continues into future years. This letter may be really long, but I really wanted to write in to you guys again!

That's what the Super Special Magazine is for, amongst other things, to make sure awesome fans like you get plenty of room to tell us what he or she is thinking of the Sonic comics!

Last month I was given the opportunity to travel to Japan via my college. I was so excited to travel to the place where my favorite video game character (Sonic!) was created. Japan was AMAZING don't get me wrong, but I was a little bit disappointed because I didn't see Sonic anywhere. I see Sonic merchandise here in the US more than I did over there. They did know of the game though, when we visited a Japanese school I wore my Sonic shirt and all the little kids got so excited and started shouting "Sonic! Sonic!" When I told the friends I met that there was a Sonic comic they were surprised.

To be fair, when anyone enters the Sonic department here at Archie, Vin and I run up to them with big doe eyes and shout "Sonic! Sonic!"

It's neat to know that there is a Sonic comic made right here in the US and that it is so popular! Anyway I also wanted to talk about how impressed I am with the stories in the recent comics. See, I ordered some back issues and I must say that the stories really picked up when Ian Flynn started writing them. Flynn is an

SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY

amazing writer and I hope he stays. As for pencilers, I think Spaz should start doing covers again, though I love how his style evolved over the years! I think Jamal Peppers and Ben Bates are the best pencilers and I hope they stay and do more issues.

I'll pass along your compliments to Spaz, Jamal and Ben!

I've noticed in many letters sent in by others, many are asking you guys to redo 25 years later...So when are you gonna do it? Please let Amy be with Sonic, let Shadow be good, and pair Tails up with someone who suits him better than Mina please.

You can check the entire "25 Years Later" story in this very issue, and hey, you said you liked Ben Bates, right? Well the cover to this issue is a special all-new "25 Years Later" cover by none other than Ben Bates! As for upcoming "Mobius: XYL" stories, you can check out alternate future mayhem in "The Silver Saga" from Sonic Universe #25-28, available now on the Sonic App! Pluggity plugplug!

One last thing, pleasepleasepleasepleaseoh please don't change Sally back to normal, seriously she's better as a robot.

Sally's story is far from over -- stay tuned, Sonic fans! Big revelations coming in 2013!

Anyway, thank you for taking time to read my super long letter =P and keep up the great work with all of the Sonic stuff y'all are doin! I'm lovin it!!!

Well I gotta juice!!
Catch ya later!!
-Hannah T.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

Thanks for the letter, Hannah! Stay tuned for more Sonic awesomeness in comics and graphic novels!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I have a question. If Amy has confused Shadow and Silver for Sonic before, why hasn't that happened with Metal Sonic?

-A.T.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

Becasue he's super shiny! That sun glare is a killer!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I really like this magazine, I find it really cool and entertaining. I have been reading Sonic the Hedgehog since comic #189 came out.

Say, that's a geat era for the comics! Love me some "Supression Squad"! Download the issue today on the Sonic comics App! Plugplugplug

I love the Sonic comics I find them very entertaining and really like the fact that the suspense just pulls you in.

Hopefully it doesn't pull you into a warp ring, though -- those things could pop you back out anywhere!

This my first message to Super Special Delivery and any Sonic fan letter thing ever. I hope Sonic Super Special stays really popular and keeps get tons of fan letters and gets a 200th issue.

From,
Nicholas M
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

We hope so too -- and thank you for all the kind words!

Vin and I have been absolutely FLOORED by the huge response you fans have given for this "Super Special" letters column - keep the correspondences comin'! That's all for this edition of SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY, make sure you all write in to let us know what you thought of this issue -- we want to hear from YOU!

See ya next time!

SUPER SHOUT - OUTS

"Sonic Super Special is way past cool, juicin and jammin!"
~ Angelo M. from NY

***"Ever since I saw him in Scourge's arc, I've been wondering; will Mephiles make any more cameos in the series?"* - Tess W.**
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

***"Do you plan on slowing down with the announcements of new graphic novels soon? I can barely keep up (take that as a compliment)."* - Trevor R.**
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

***"Yes, a super-sized letter column!"* ~ Matthew F.**
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

***"I think it would be NEAT to see Jules Hedgehog in his Mobian form in the newer comics!"* - Amber C.**
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Sonic's getting awesomer by the minute, guys!"
- Kelsey R.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

LOOK OUT FOR MORE
SONIC ADVENTURE
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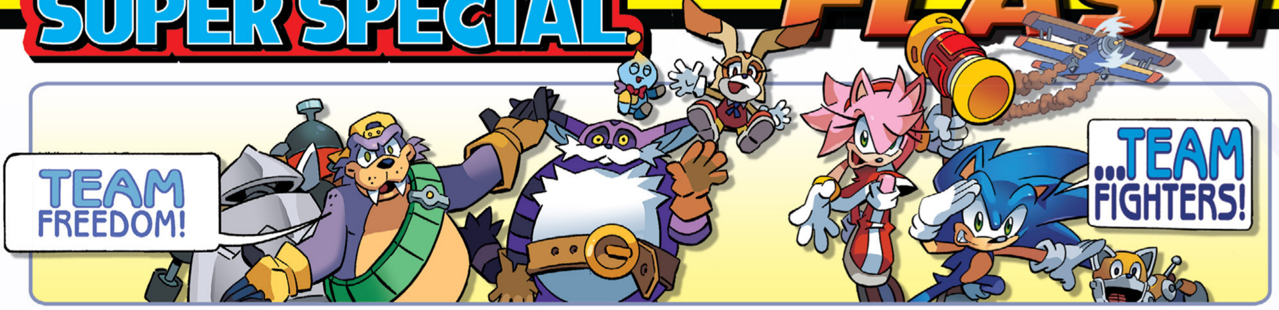
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL NEWS FLASH


TEAM FREEDOM!
...TEAM FIGHTERS!

A DOUBLE DOSE OF HEROES!

SONIC LEADS TEAM FIGHTERS ABROAD TO HUNT DOWN THE EGGMAN WHILE ROTOR'S TEAM FREEDOM MANAGES THE HOME FRONT AND KEEPS AN EYE ON NAUGUS.

For the past nineteen years, the core Freedom Fighters have been helping rid the planet Mobius of evil and keep the peace. Started by Sonic and Princess Sally at the beginning of the First Robotnik war, the Knothole Freedom Fighters have grown and evolved into one of the most elite fighting forces in history.

The events of "Genesis" and the subsequent attacks by both Eggman and Ixis Naugus have been devastating, with Princess Sally roboticized, Antoine comatose and Bunnie A-WOL. When it seemed that the team had finally met their match, Sonic and the remaining heroes banded together to continue the work that the Freedom Fighters had started, by forming TWO new teams to combat evil! Enter: Team Freedom and Team Fighters.

Team Fighters is an all-out action squad designed to take the fight to Eggman and his Death Egg and to track down and rescue the roboticized Princess Sally. This elite fighting squad consists of field leader Sonic the Hedgehog, power-house Amy Rose, tech-officer and braintrust Miles "Tails" Prower, and the ever-versatile robot T-Pup! Team Fighters is also responsible for inspiring the citizens to stand up for themselves in the face of evil, by setting an example of heroism and selflessness.

Team Freedom is the last line of defense for the city of New Mobotropolis, and the very Republic of Acorn itself! This stronghold of defensive strength includes field commander Rotor Walrus, the immeasurable strength of Big the Cat, the agile and eager Cream and Cheese, and the explosive firepower of Heavy and Bomb! Team Freedom is also charged with the duty of monitoring the evil King Ixis Naugus, and will be ready in the event of any attack to the Kingdom both foreign and domestic! Follow both teams' adventures in current issues of STH and SU! ■

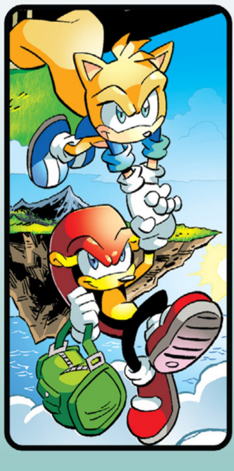
"FREEDOM FIGHTERS" NO MORE!

AFTER 19 YEARS OF HEROICS, THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAVE FINALLY MET THEIR END!

A CHAOTIC DUO!

THE FRACTURED "CHAOTIX" TEAM TAKES CENTER STAGE IN NEW SONIC UNIVERSE ARC!

When Mighty the Armadillo discovered that he may have family still alive somewhere on Mobius, he and his good friend Ray ventured off into unknown adventure, leaving their Chaotix teammates behind! But that was all the way back in Sonic the Hedgehog #212 -- so where are Mighty and Ray now? We caught up with writer Ian Flynn to ask about his plans for the pair of heroes!



"When we set Mighty and Ray on their journey, I meant for them to be gone for a while. I wanted their departure to mean something, and for the fans to start to miss them. It'd make their return all the sweeter. Well, the fans have made their voices heard loud and clear -- they want Mighty and Ray back, and they want them now! And you know what? They're right! It's been a long time, and I've been dying to tell the story of what happened to them. Did they find Mighty's sister? Where did their journey take them? We're finally going to answer those questions and more in "All For One" beginning in Sonic Universe #46 this fall!!" ■

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL REVIEW:

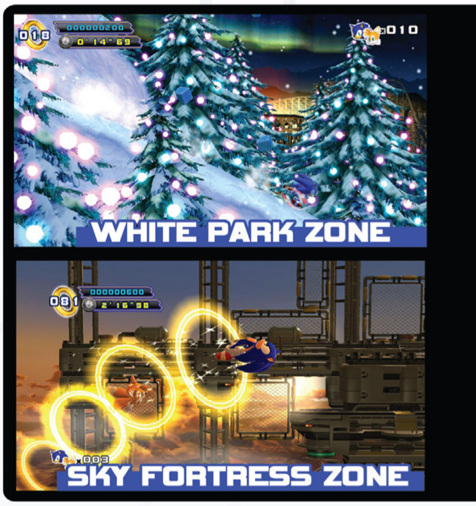
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 4™

EPISODE II

SONIC 4: EPISODE 2 IS THE EPISODIC ADVENTURE THAT ROLLS ON STRONG!

Last Super Special featured our special prologue, kicking off the story to Episode II (pick it up for the whole scoop!). With Tails by his side, Sonic is determined to track down Eggman, save his animal buddies, and figure out how the return of Little Planet fits into the Doctor's scheme! The plot is simple, like the classic games, but having the return of Little Planet be intertwined with Eggman's scheme is a clever way to tell the story!

Also similar to the classic games, in particular **Sonic 3**, are the cut-scenes. The original Genesis Sonic games would often have short scenes to move the story along, or transition into a level. Upon starting the first level of Episode II, a short cut-scene plays with Tails piloting the original Tornado plane, and Sonic is standing on top of it. What's neat about this scene is its smooth transition into the stage. Sonic and Tails land the plane, jump out, and the journey begins. Transitions like these were some of things that I really enjoyed in **Sonic 3** and **Sonic and Knuckles**, and I'm really glad that they show up again here.

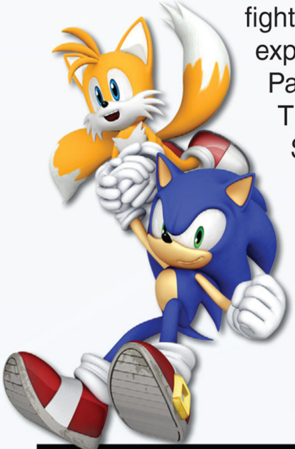


The controls are great, and Sonic handles closer to how he did on the Genesis, and more recently, how classic Sonic played in **Sonic Generations**. Sonic's move-set hasn't changed much since Episode I, he has the usual spin dash and spin attack, but shares new combo moves with Tails, in which together Sonic can perform three extra moves. The copter combo is a familiar move returning from **Sonic 3**, where Tails can pick Sonic up and fly him to higher areas he couldn't normally reach. There is also the submarine combo, which is similar to the copter combo, only it is performed underwater. Finally there is the rolling combo, where Sonic and Tails spin together to make a powerful rolling attack that destroys just about everything in its path!

Sonic and Tails traverse through four zones, each with three separate acts, and a boss fight. Each zone is designed with plenty of branching pathways, making for some awesome exploration. The levels are very lively, with well animated backgrounds. Take a look at White Park Zone for instance, there's a roller coaster in the background, and it's actually in operation! The boss battles alternate between fights with Eggman, usually in a giant mech, and Metal Sonic, who returns from Little Planet. I don't want to give away too much, but there is a Metal Sonic battle that is chock-full of nostalgia.

The music in this episode is pretty sweet too! There are plenty of tracks I like, but White Park Zone Act 2 is by far my favorite, it's even got a bit of Twinkle Park's Pleasure Castle mixed in from **Sonic Adventure**! Just awesome.

There are a few different modes in Episode II other than the single player campaign. There is now a multiplayer mode that can be played locally or online. There are also leader boards which return from the first episode, containing both time attack and score attack modes.



COPTER COMBO!

TOGETHER WITH TAILS, YOU CAN PERFORM ONE OF THREE AWESOME COMBO MOVES!

Sonic 4 Episode II is another great installment in the episodic adventure. With awesome visuals, cool tunes, great gameplay, and multiplayer for the win, Episode II is an adventure that should be in every Sonic fan's digital library! - Vincent Lovallo ■

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL PRESENTS: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL SPECTACULAR

DOLLY SQUAD!! SQUEEEEEEEEE!!!
NO!

Welcome, Sonic fans young and old! Jonathan "WB" Gray, your Sonic Off-Panel artist here! The Archie Sonic Team has seen fit to give me my own column (THE FOOLS! MWAHAHAHA!!!) where I can discuss topics with you guys and be "YOUR MAN ON THE INSIDE!"

SONIC UNIVERSE
KNUCKLES RETURNS
FLYNN • YARDLEY • AMASH

Sonic Universe: Book 3 -- "Knuckles Returns!"

Releases - 8/8/2012 $11.99 US/$12.99 CAN

Eerie Albionite ruins, a new Platypus Dark Legion, and Knuckles' greatest enemy -- Dr. Finitevus threaten the peace of Angel Island! It's friend-turned-foe and foe-turned-friend as Knuckles, the Chaotix and the Downunda Freedom Fighters save the day!

Sonic Saga Series: Book 1 -- "Darkest Storm!"

Releases - 8/22/2012 $11.99 US/$12.99 CAN

What do you get when you mix Sonic, Tails, Knuckles, Dr. Eggman, the immortal Mammoth Mogul, Ixis Naugus and a slew of spider ninjas sprinkled with a dash of the Freedom Fighters and the Chaotix? CHAOS: that's what! The "**Saga Series**" starts now!

"SONIC THE HEDGEHOG KEEPS GOING STRONG!" MTV
SONIC SAGA SERIES
DARKEST STORM
1
FLYNN • FRY • AMASH

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG PRESENTS
KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA ARCHIVES VOLUME 3

STH Presents: Knuckles Archives #3

Releases - 9/12/2012 $9.99 US/$10.99 CAN

Knuckles horns in on Sonic's world tour as he and special guest, Rob O' The Hedge discover the Lost Tribe and the long-lost city of Albion! Meanwhile, as The Chaotix put a stop to a local crime lord, Charmy Bee must reconcile with the life he left behind...

Sonic Select #6: "The Death Egg Saga!"

Releases - 9/26/2012 $11.99 US/$12.99 CAN

Seeking a power ring to cure King Acorn, Sonic and Tails stumble upon Dr. Robotnik's deadliest plot yet: roboticizing all of Planet Mobius in one fell swoop! Witness the rise and fall of the Death Egg MK I...as well as the eventual rise of the Death Egg MK II!

SONIC SELECT BOOK SIX 6
THE DEATH EGG SAGA

Once upon a time, Knuckles the Echidna had his own book. In the confines of 32 issues, Rad Red developed an engrossing macrocosm of locales, heroes and villains based upon the lore of his culture, heritage and people (for a guy who's a loner in the games, he sure had a huge gaggle of pals)!

Meanwhile, his and Sonic's worlds rarely touched -- until the decision was made to merge two tales into one. The milestone issue and after-effects of ***Sonic #125*** brought both worlds together permanently.

Still, S&K had amassed a deluge of continuity. As we entered the "modern era" of Sonic comics, that's where ***Knuckles: The Return*** and ***The Darkest Storm*** come in. They were the first attempts to -- in terms of Sonic, tie up loose ends of stories past – and in terms of Knuckles, sow the seeds of something new! Sonic escaped the grip of continuity lockout, while Knuckles -- with a new arch villain and a newer world-view in the wake of his revamping -- began a new mystery...

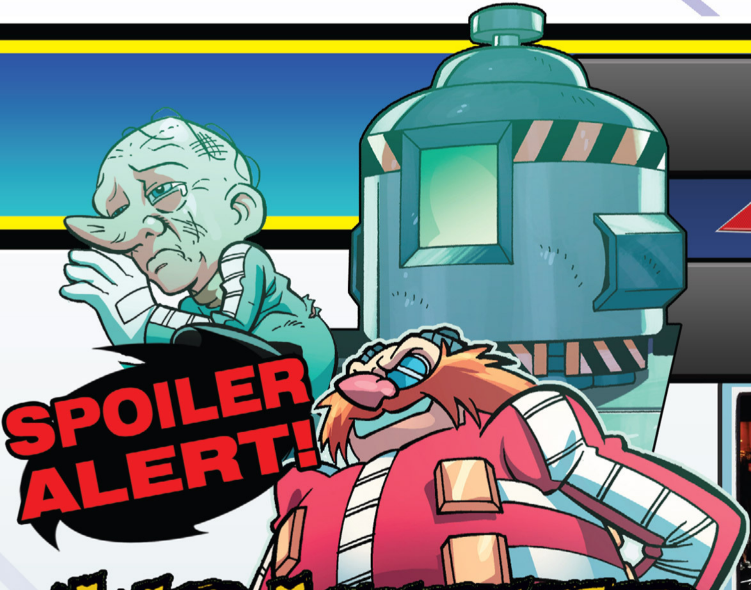
What does the future hold for Sonic, Knuckles, the Chaotix, Eggman and the Death Egg? Catch up on the best tales of their past in ***Sonic Select #6*** and ***Knuckles Archives #3*** and stay tuned to current issues of ***Sonic*** and ***Sonic Universe***! *The futures of Knuckles and the Chaotix are closer than you think...*

DUB'S TRIVIA CORNER!

In Sonic R, Tails Doll was really nothing more than a lifeless puppet. The creepy factor and scariness of it became amplified as an internet meme among Sonic fans. Pay attention to his sound effects! When you hear the "SCHLURPY," beware!

Catch you on the schlurp side, gang! ■

- Jon Gray! ☺


SPOILER ALERT!

SCRAMBLED

GAME OVER, SNIVELY.

THANKS FOR PLAYING.

GET A LOAD OF THIS!

For ten long years, Snively Robotnik has played a deadly game of cat and mouse with Dr. Eggman! In a revolving door of betrayals he always slinked back to his evil uncle with his tail between his legs! Until the day he met an enchanting young queen named Regina...

Sonic Universe #37-40 chronicles **"SCRAMBLED"** -- Eggman's ***final battle*** with Snively! Our villain protagonist fought to unite the remains of his broken family against their leader and reconcile with the love of his life: the Iron Queen, Regina Ferrum.

"This is a story that we have been planning for some time," says Editor Paul Kaminski. "I remember Ian and I worked the ending out as he was signing books at 2011's SDCC!"

This titanic tale is available in-full on the **Sonic Comics App**, available now on a mobile device near you! ■

MREE-HEE-HEE.!! OH, SNIVY-KINS, THIS IS PERFECT! I CAN RENEW MY TECHNOMANCY CULT WITHIN THE FEDERATION!
I'LL HAVE NEWER MACHINERY AT MY BECK AND CALL!

SONIC & ALL-STARS RACING TRANSFORMED™

EVERYBODY'S SUPER SONIC RACING!

THIS JUST IN: Danica Patrick, the most successful woman in the history of American open-wheel racing, is the celebrity guest star of **All-Stars Racing Transformed!**

Joining Sonic and Danica will be previous mainstays -- *Tails, Knuckles, Amy, Shadow, Dr. Eggman* (**Sonic the Hedgehog**), *AiAi* (**Super Monkey Ball**), *Amigo* (**Samba de Amigo**), *Beat* (**Jet Set Radio**), and *B.D. Joe* (**Crazy Taxi**)! But who are our other newcomers? Welcome *Joe Musashi* (**Shinobi**), *Vyse the Sky Pirate* (**Skies of Arcadia**) and *Gilius Thunderhead* the dwarf warrior (**Golden Axe**) with a **Panzer Dragoon** stage in tow! Twenty-seven characters are confirmed in total for **Sonic & All-Stars Racing Transformed**! Who else will make the cut? Stay tuned! ■

ROLLING START!

AIR TRAVEL!

Sumo Digital has included the ability for your vehicles to switch modes as you race towards the goal! Take to skies as your car transforms into a plane! Navigate the twists and turns to seek out new shortcuts! But beware of any sky obstacles that might slow you down!

SEA TRAVEL!

In addition to land and air, you can also travel on water! Crest the waves as your car turns into a boat before your very eyes! Water can change how you drive your vehicle, so be aware of what it is that you're doing! Rock that boat or don't rock it at all, baby -- *but don't tip the boat over*!

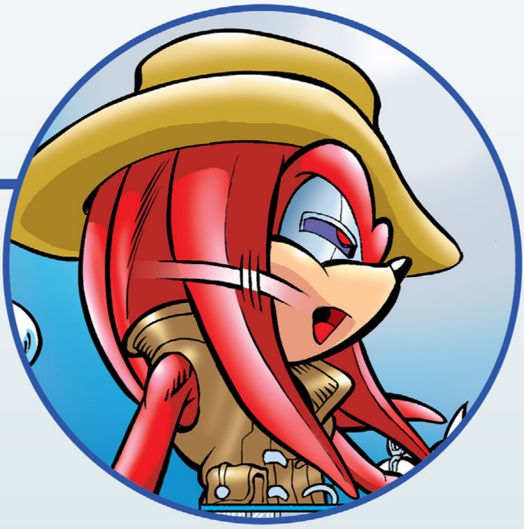
Check out our **Sonic & All-Stars Racing Transformed** adaptation in the pages of **Sonic Universe #45** and buy the game for your **X-Box, Wii-U, 3DS, PS3** and **PS Vita**!

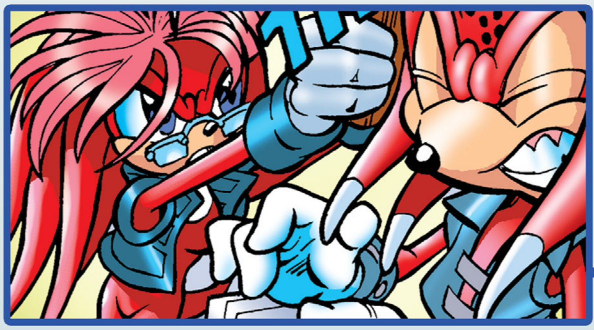
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

MOBIUS: 25 YEARS LATER

PREVIOUSLY...

(CHECK THE PRELUDE STORY IN SONIC UNIVERSE VOL. 2 GRAPHIC NOVEL ON SALE NOW!) **THE FUTURE IS NOW** FOR **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!** THE CITY OF **ECHIDNAOPOLIS** HAS FLOURISHED TO BE A BEACON OF PROGRESS ON THE **PLANET MOBIUS**. THE DAUGHTER OF KNUCKLES, **LARA-SU**, HAS PROVED TO BE TOP OF HER CLASS IN THE HISTORY OF **ECHIDNA CULTURE**, AND LIFE GOES ON FOR OUR HEROES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

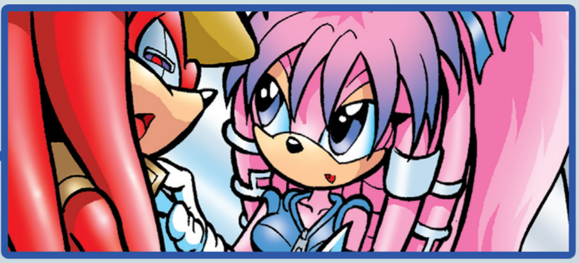




DESPITE ALL OF HER **ACADEMIC GIFTS,** LARA-SU DREAMS OF BEING THE NEXT **GUARDIAN OF ANGEL ISLAND! MUCH TO LARA'S DISAPPOINTMENT,** KNUCKLES HAS EXPLAINED TO HIS DAUGHTER THAT **THERE IS NO NEED FOR A GUARDIAN,** AS PEACE NOW REIGNS SUPREME!

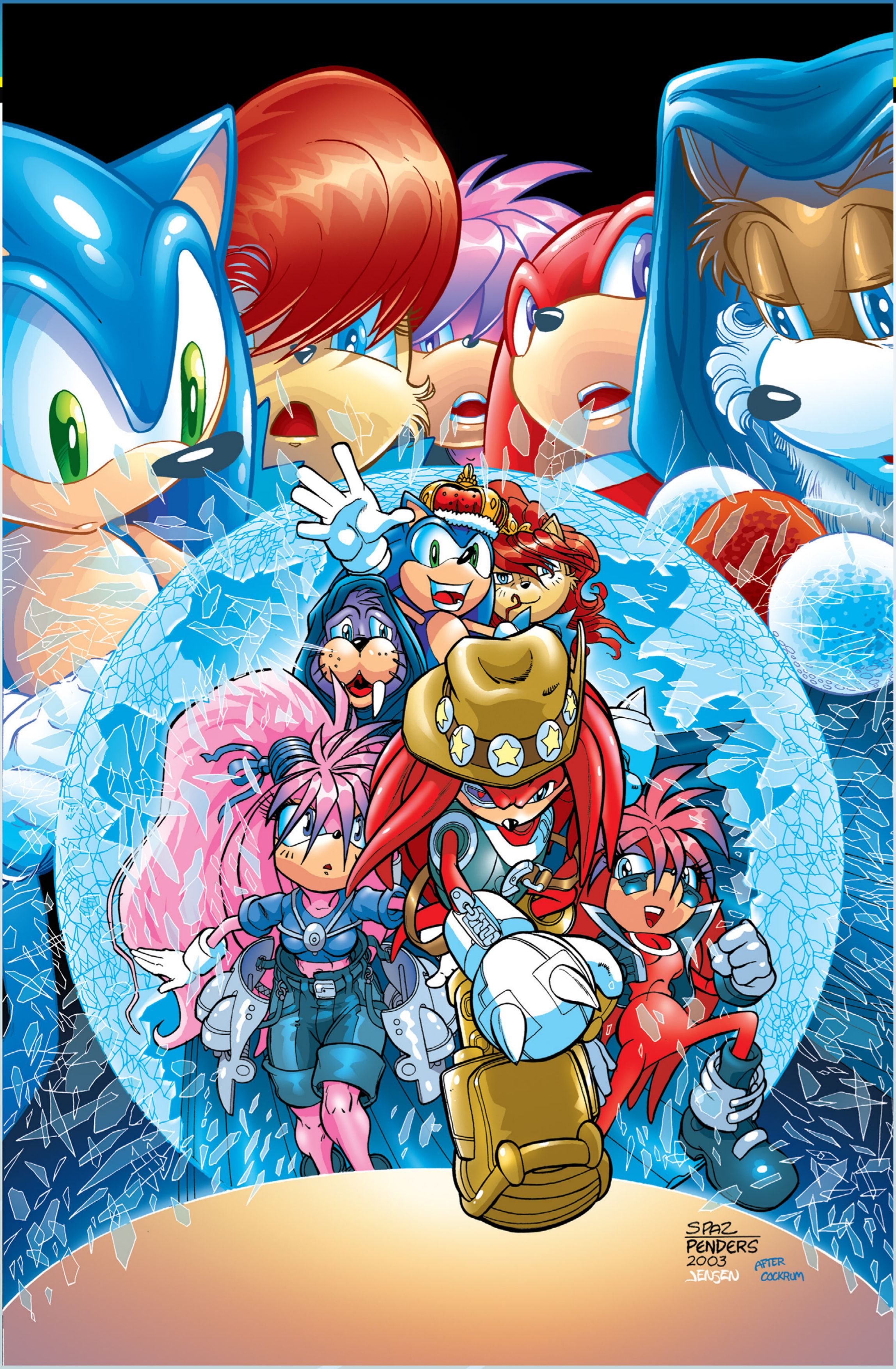
FATHER AND DAUGHTER WERE ABLE TO MEND THEIR DIFFERENCES IN TIME FOR THE **UNVEILING CEREMONY,** AN ANCIENT ECHIDNA RIGHT OF PASSAGE.

AS ONE CRISIS IS AVERTED, ANOTHER IS BREWING BELOW THE SURFACE...

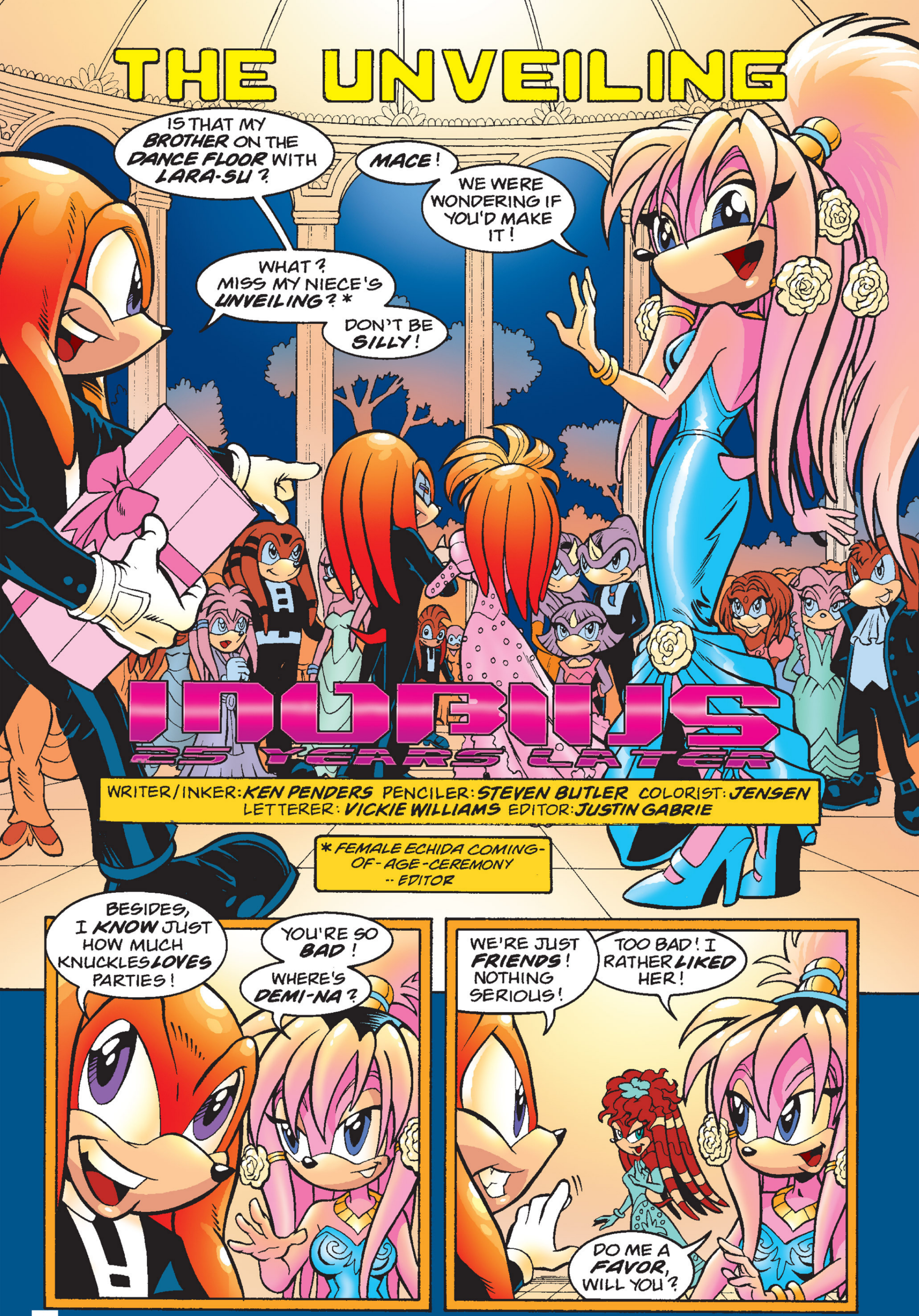


DID YOU KNOW...

Future Knuckles' hat is literally a "tip of the hat" to the one Knuckles wore in Sonic the Movie (AKA Sonic OVA). With that hat , sharp fist of fury, a robot eye, and a short temper to boot, future Knuckles doesn't appear to have settled much in his older age.

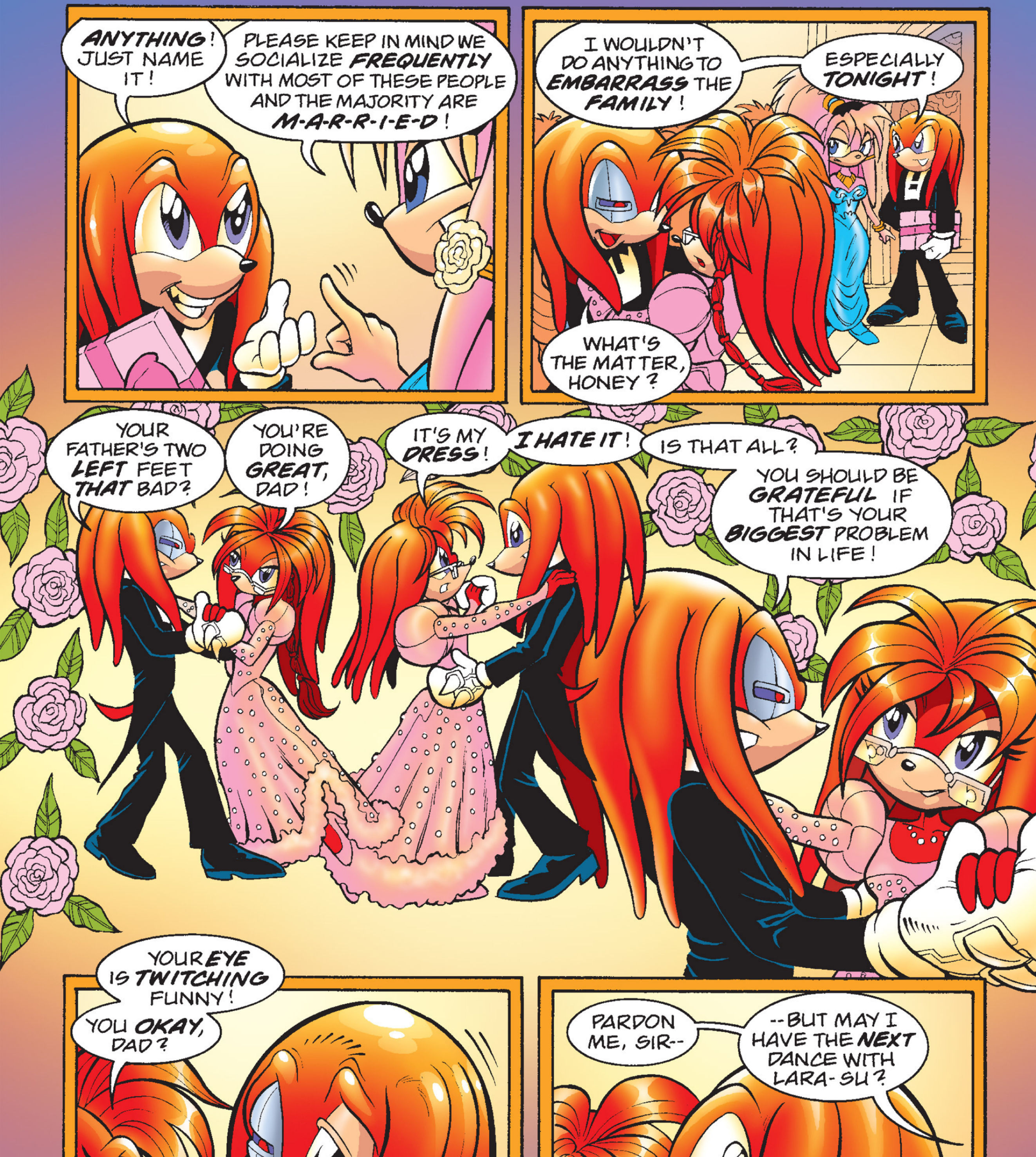

SPAZ
PENDERS
2003
JENSEN
AFTER
COCKRUM

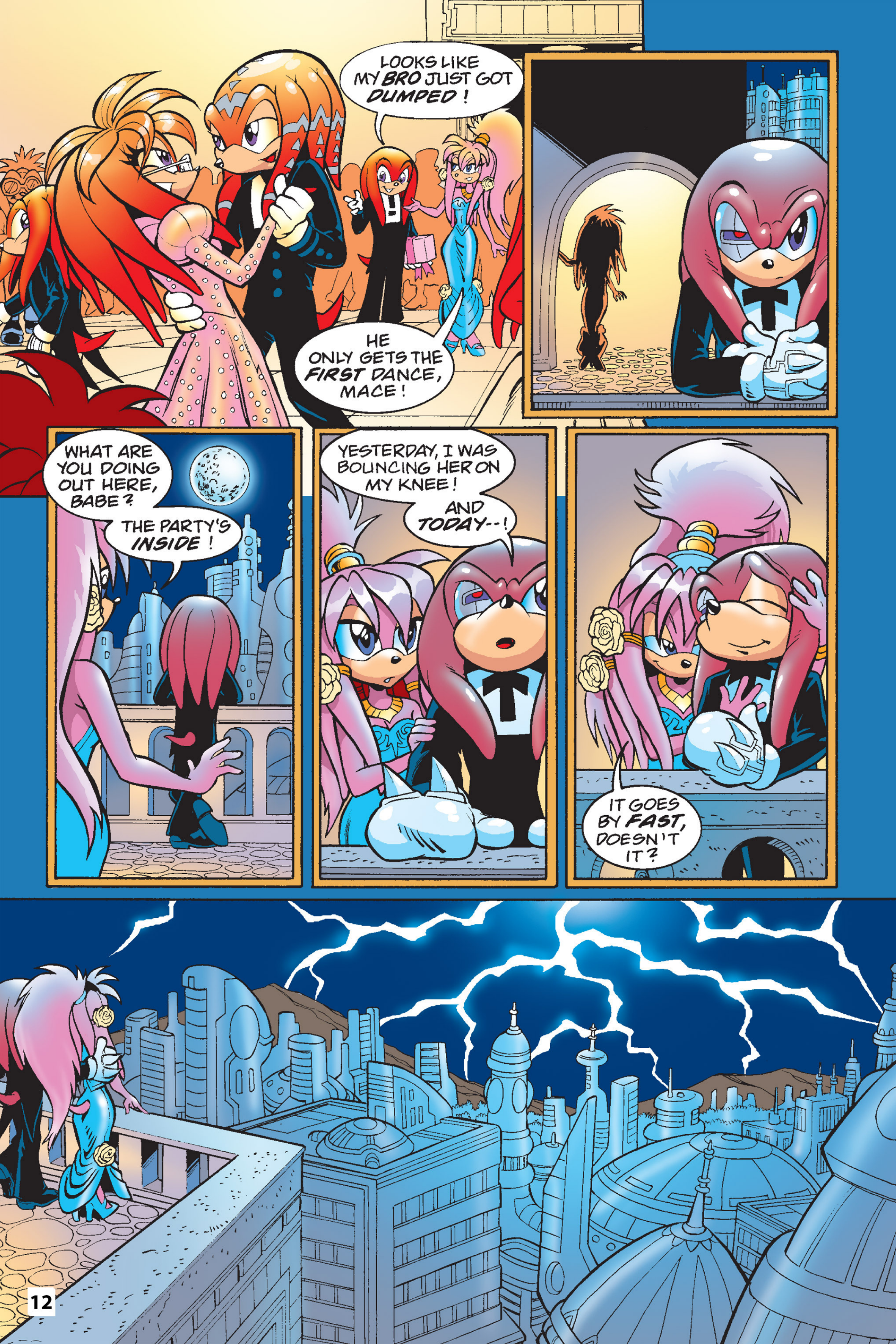
THE UNVEILING

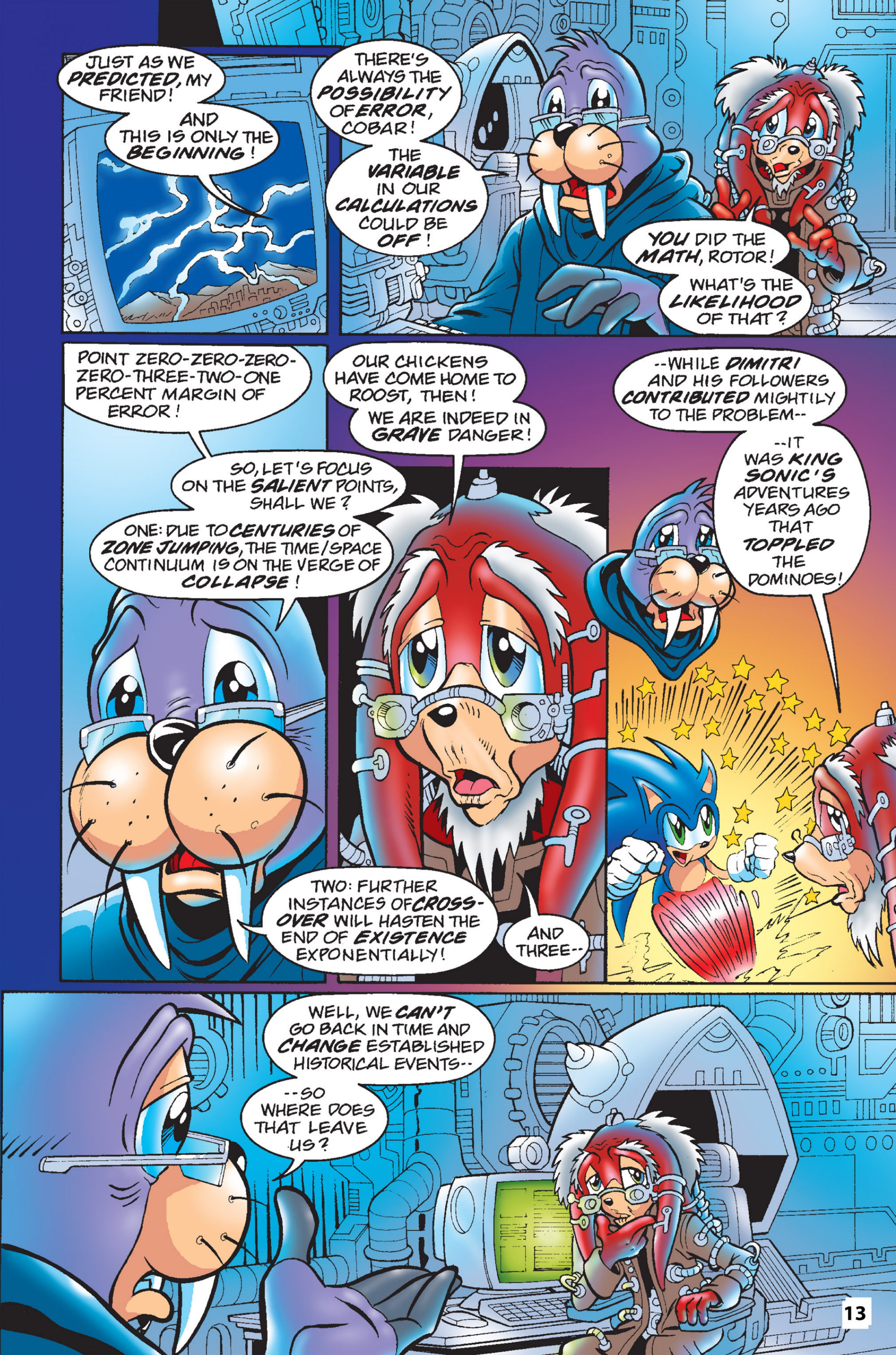

IS THAT MY BROTHER ON THE DANCE FLOOR WITH LARA-SU?
MACE! WE WERE WONDERING IF YOU'D MAKE IT!
WHAT? MISS MY NIECE'S UNVEILING? * DON'T BE SILLY!
MOBIUS 25 YEARS LATER
BESIDES, I KNOW JUST HOW MUCH KNUCKLES LOVES PARTIES!
YOU'RE SO BAD! WHERE'S DEMI-NA?
WE'RE JUST FRIENDS! NOTHING SERIOUS!
TOO BAD! I RATHER LIKED HER!
DO ME A FAVOR, WILL YOU?

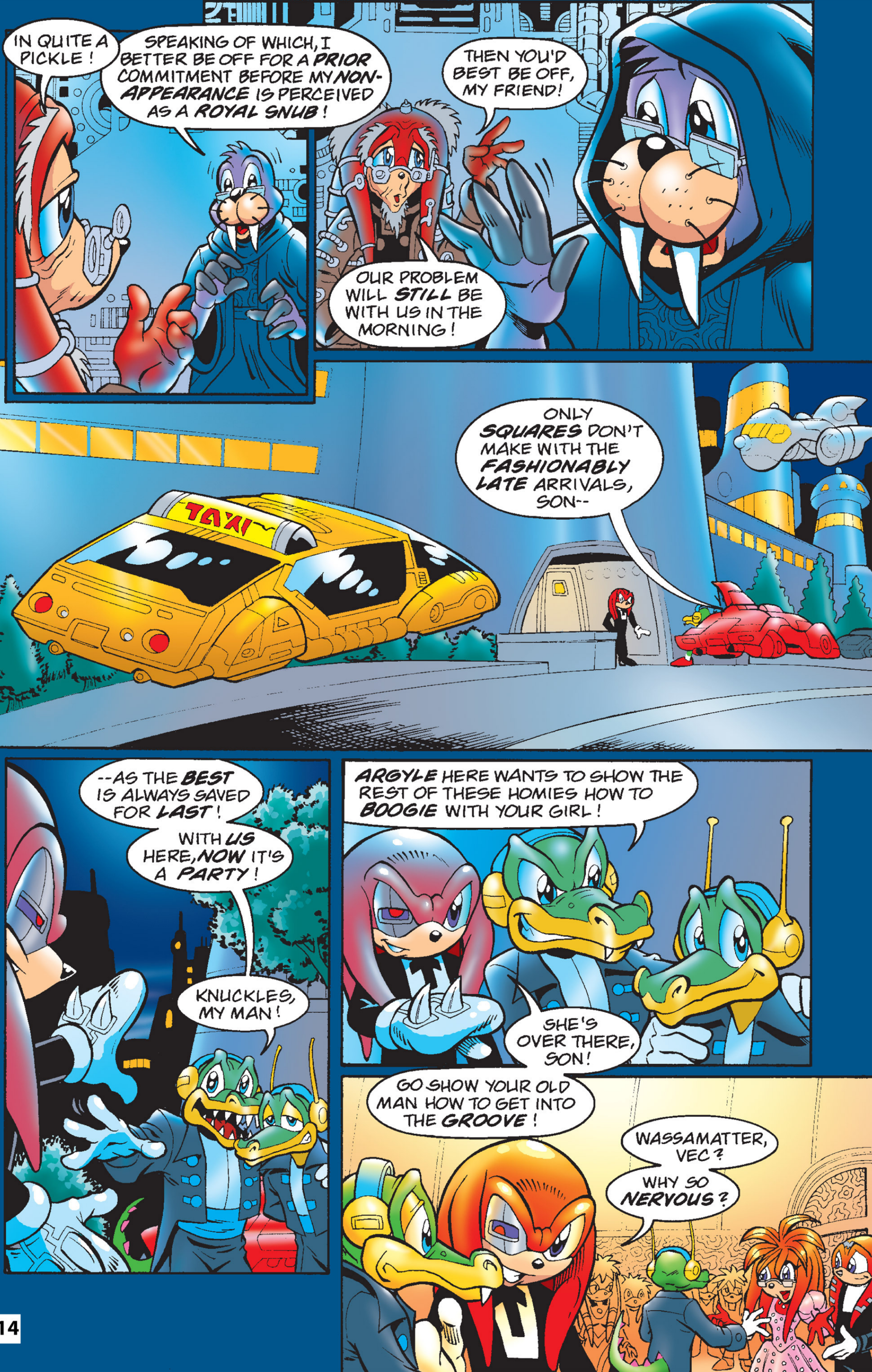
WRITER/INKER: KEN PENDERS PENCILER: STEVEN BUTLER COLORIST: JENSEN
LETTERER: VICKIE WILLIAMS EDITOR: JUSTIN GABRIE

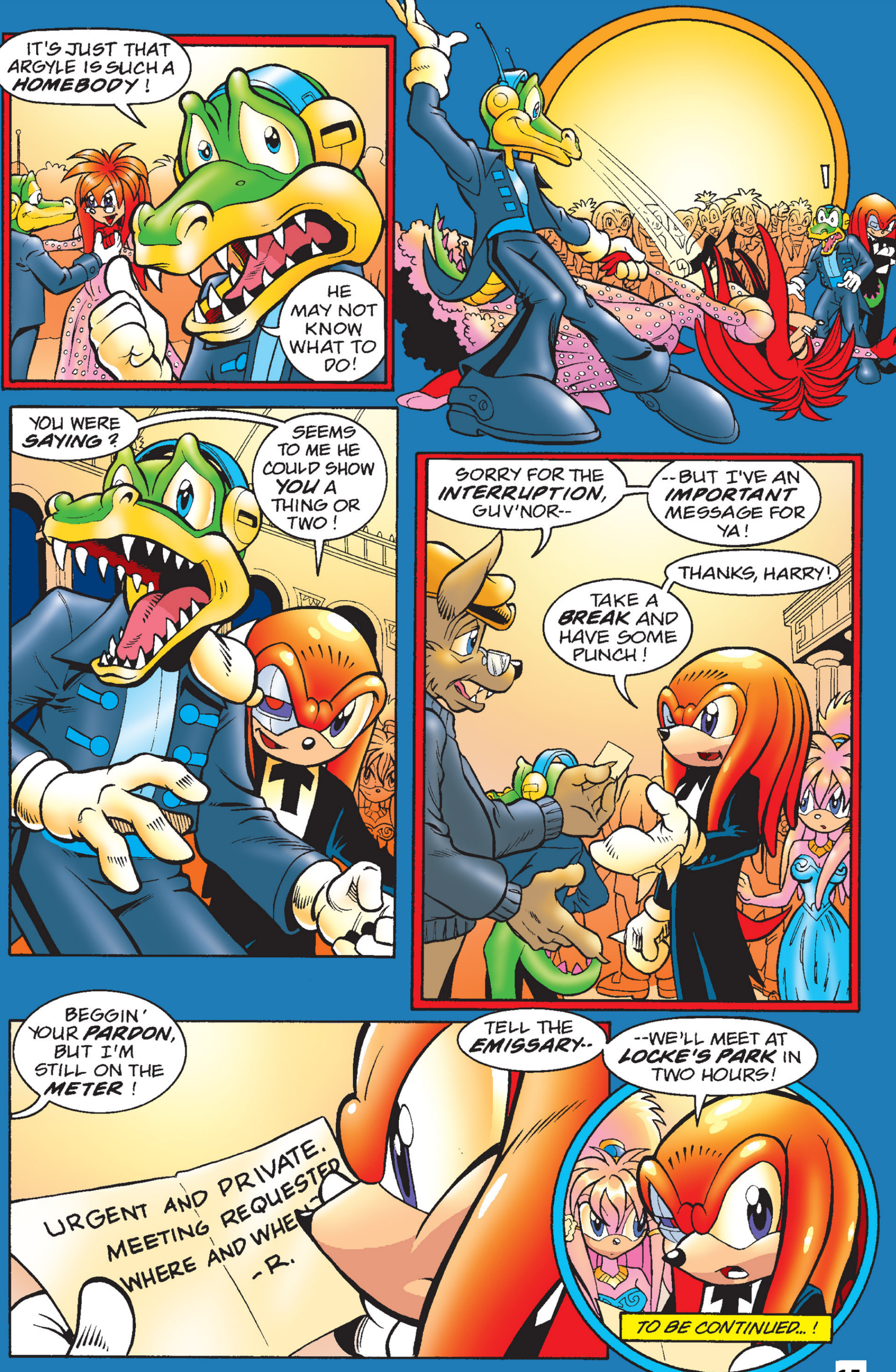
* FEMALE ECHIDA COMING-OF-AGE-CEREMONY -- EDITOR

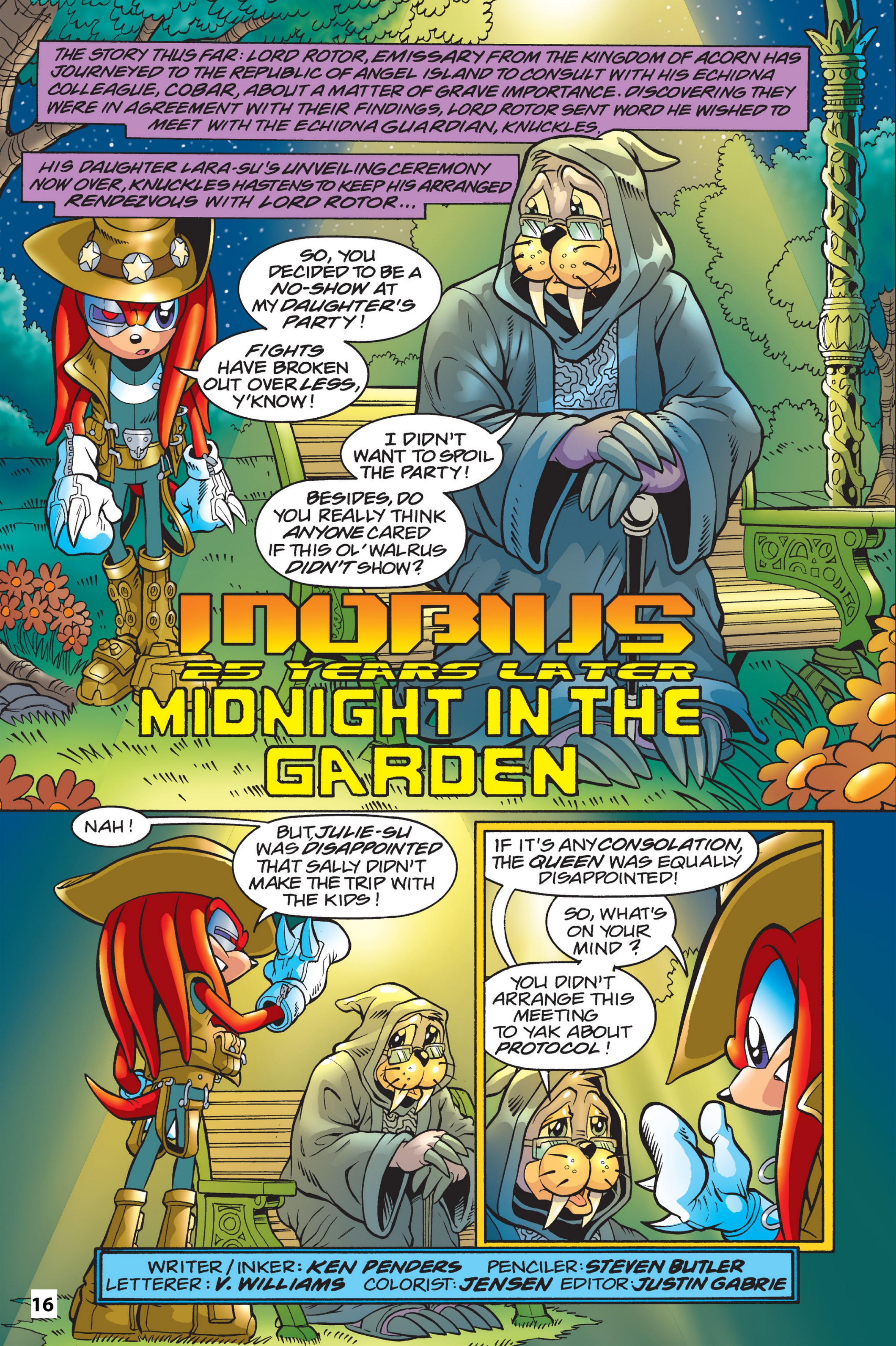

ANYTHING! JUST NAME IT!
PLEASE KEEP IN MIND WE SOCIALIZE FREQUENTLY WITH MOST OF THESE PEOPLE AND THE MAJORITY ARE M-A-R-R-I-E-D!
I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING TO EMBARRASS THE FAMILY!
ESPECIALLY TONIGHT!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, HONEY?
YOUR FATHER'S TWO LEFT FEET THAT BAD?
YOU'RE DOING GREAT, DAD!
IT'S MY DRESS!
I HATE IT!
IS THAT ALL?
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THAT'S YOUR BIGGEST PROBLEM IN LIFE!
YOUR EYE IS TWITCHING FUNNY!
YOU OKAY, DAD?
EVERYTHING'S FINE, HON!
PARDON ME, SIR--
--BUT MAY I HAVE THE NEXT DANCE WITH LARA-SU?


LOOKS LIKE MY *BRO* JUST GOT *DUMPED* !
HE ONLY GETS THE *FIRST* DANCE, MACE !
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE, BABE ?
THE PARTY'S *INSIDE* !
YESTERDAY, I WAS BOUNCING HER ON MY KNEE !
AND *TODAY*--!
IT GOES BY *FAST*, DOESN'T IT ?

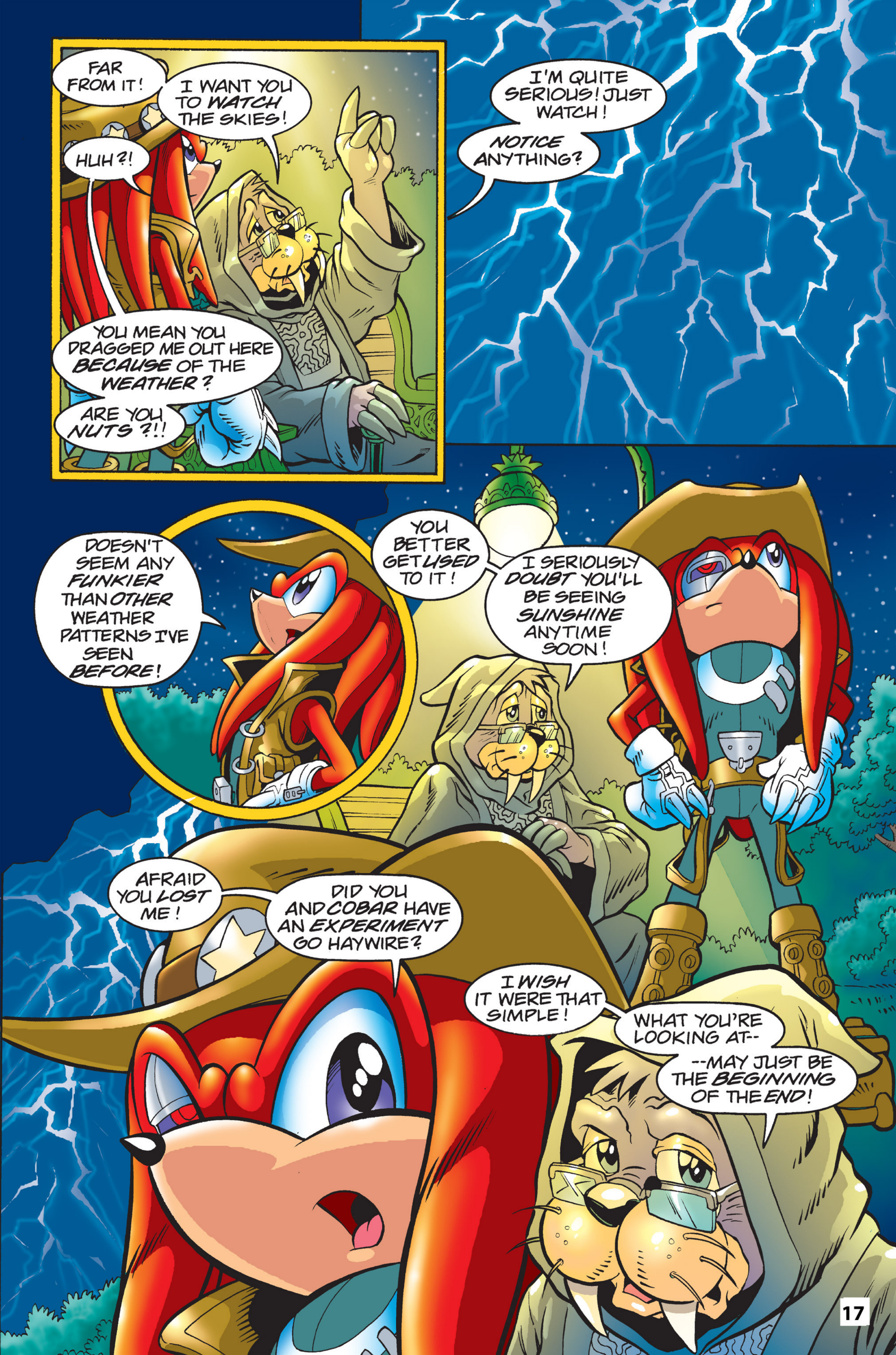

JUST AS WE PREDICTED, MY FRIEND!
AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING!
THERE'S ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY OF ERROR, COBAR!
THE VARIABLE IN OUR CALCULATIONS COULD BE OFF!
YOU DID THE MATH, ROTOR!
WHAT'S THE LIKELIHOOD OF THAT?
POINT ZERO-ZERO-ZERO-ZERO-THREE-TWO-ONE PERCENT MARGIN OF ERROR!
OUR CHICKENS HAVE COME HOME TO ROOST, THEN!
WE ARE INDEED IN GRAVE DANGER!
SO, LET'S FOCUS ON THE SALIENT POINTS, SHALL WE?
ONE: DUE TO CENTURIES OF ZONE JUMPING, THE TIME/SPACE CONTINUUM IS ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE!
TWO: FURTHER INSTANCES OF CROSS-OVER WILL HASTEN THE END OF EXISTENCE EXPONENTIALLY!
AND THREE--
--WHILE DIMITRI AND HIS FOLLOWERS CONTRIBUTED MIGHTILY TO THE PROBLEM--
--IT WAS KING SONIC'S ADVENTURES YEARS AGO THAT TOPPLED THE DOMINOES!
WELL, WE CAN'T GO BACK IN TIME AND CHANGE ESTABLISHED HISTORICAL EVENTS--
--SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE US?

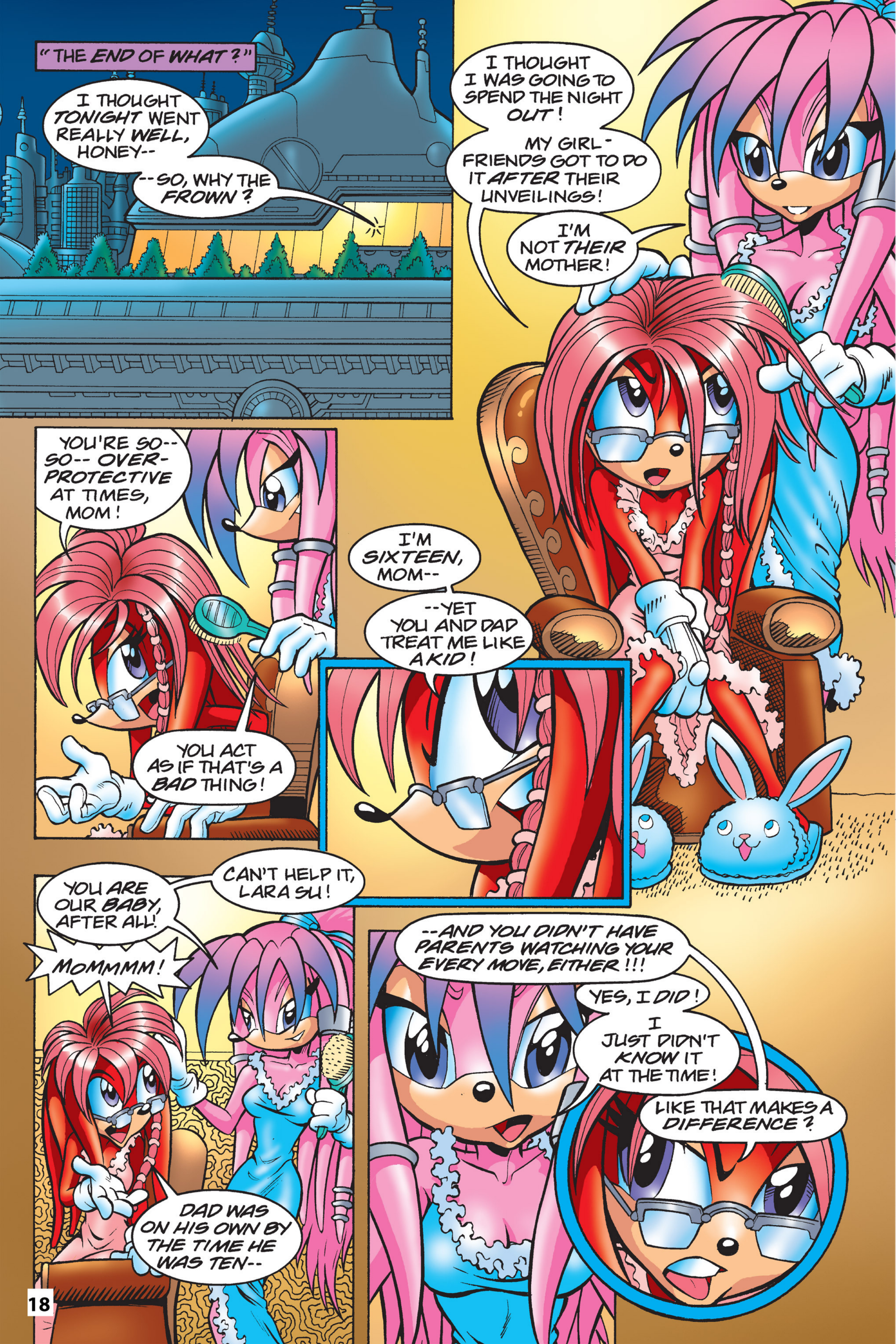

IN QUITE A PICKLE!
SPEAKING OF WHICH, I BETTER BE OFF FOR A **PRIOR** COMMITMENT BEFORE MY **NON-APPEARANCE** IS PERCEIVED AS A **ROYAL SNUB**!
THEN YOU'D BEST BE OFF, MY FRIEND!
OUR PROBLEM WILL **STILL** BE WITH US IN THE MORNING!
TAXI
ONLY **SQUARES** DON'T MAKE WITH THE **FASHIONABLY LATE** ARRIVALS, SON--
--AS THE **BEST** IS ALWAYS SAVED FOR **LAST**!
WITH **US** HERE, **NOW** IT'S A **PARTY**!
KNUCKLES, MY MAN!
ARGYLE HERE WANTS TO SHOW THE REST OF THESE HOMIES HOW TO **BOOGIE** WITH YOUR GIRL!
SHE'S OVER THERE, SON!
GO SHOW YOUR OLD MAN HOW TO GET INTO THE **GROOVE**!
WASSAMATTER, VEC?
WHY SO **NERVOUS**?

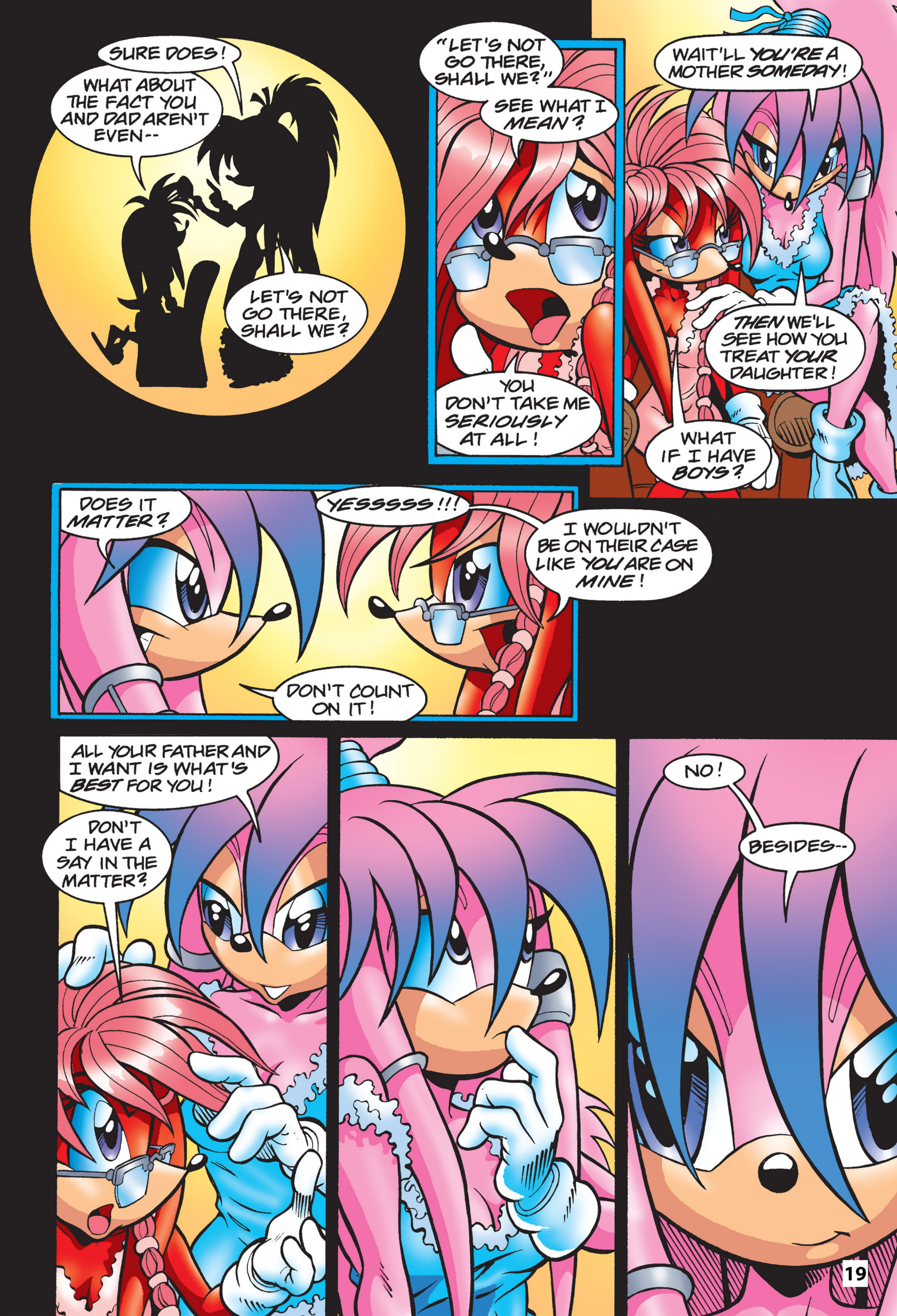

IT'S JUST THAT ARGYLE IS SUCH A **HOMEBODY**!
HE MAY NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO!
YOU WERE **SAYING**?
SEEMS TO ME HE COULD SHOW **YOU** A THING OR TWO!
SORRY FOR THE **INTERRUPTION**, GUV'NOR--
--BUT I'VE AN **IMPORTANT** MESSAGE FOR YA!
THANKS, HARRY!
TAKE A **BREAK** AND HAVE SOME PUNCH!
BEGGIN' YOUR **PARDON**, BUT I'M STILL ON THE **METER**!
URGENT AND PRIVATE. MEETING REQUESTED WHERE AND WHEN? -R.
TELL THE **EMISSARY**..
--WE'LL MEET AT **LOCKE'S PARK** IN TWO HOURS!
TO BE CONTINUED...!

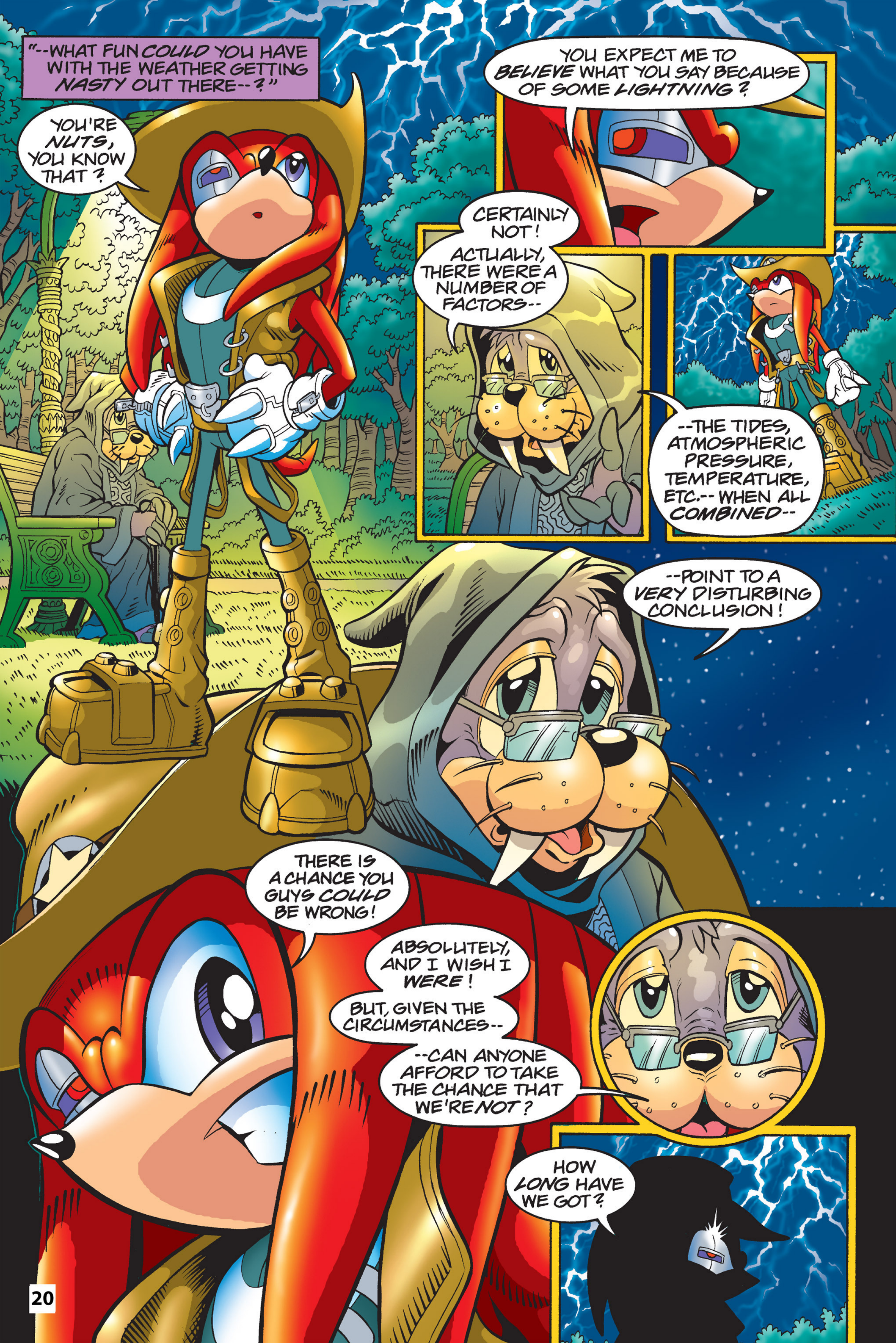

THE STORY THUS FAR: LORD ROTOR, EMISSARY FROM THE KINGDOM OF ACORN HAS JOURNEYED TO THE REPUBLIC OF ANGEL ISLAND TO CONSULT WITH HIS ECHIDNA COLLEAGUE, COBAR, ABOUT A MATTER OF GRAVE IMPORTANCE. DISCOVERING THEY WERE IN AGREEMENT WITH THEIR FINDINGS, LORD ROTOR SENT WORD HE WISHED TO MEET WITH THE ECHIDNA GUARDIAN, KNUCKLES.
HIS DAUGHTER LARA-SU'S UNVEILING CEREMONY NOW OVER, KNUCKLES HASTENS TO KEEP HIS ARRANGED RENDEZVOUS WITH LORD ROTOR...
SO, YOU DECIDED TO BE A NO-SHOW AT MY DAUGHTER'S PARTY!
FIGHTS HAVE BROKEN OUT OVER LESS, Y'KNOW!
I DIDN'T WANT TO SPOIL THE PARTY!
BESIDES, DO YOU REALLY THINK ANYONE CARED IF THIS OL' WALRUS DIDN'T SHOW?
MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER
MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN
NAH!
BUT, JULIE-SU WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT SALLY DIDN'T MAKE THE TRIP WITH THE KIDS!
IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, THE QUEEN WAS EQUALLY DISAPPOINTED!
SO, WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
YOU DIDN'T ARRANGE THIS MEETING TO YAK ABOUT PROTOCOL!

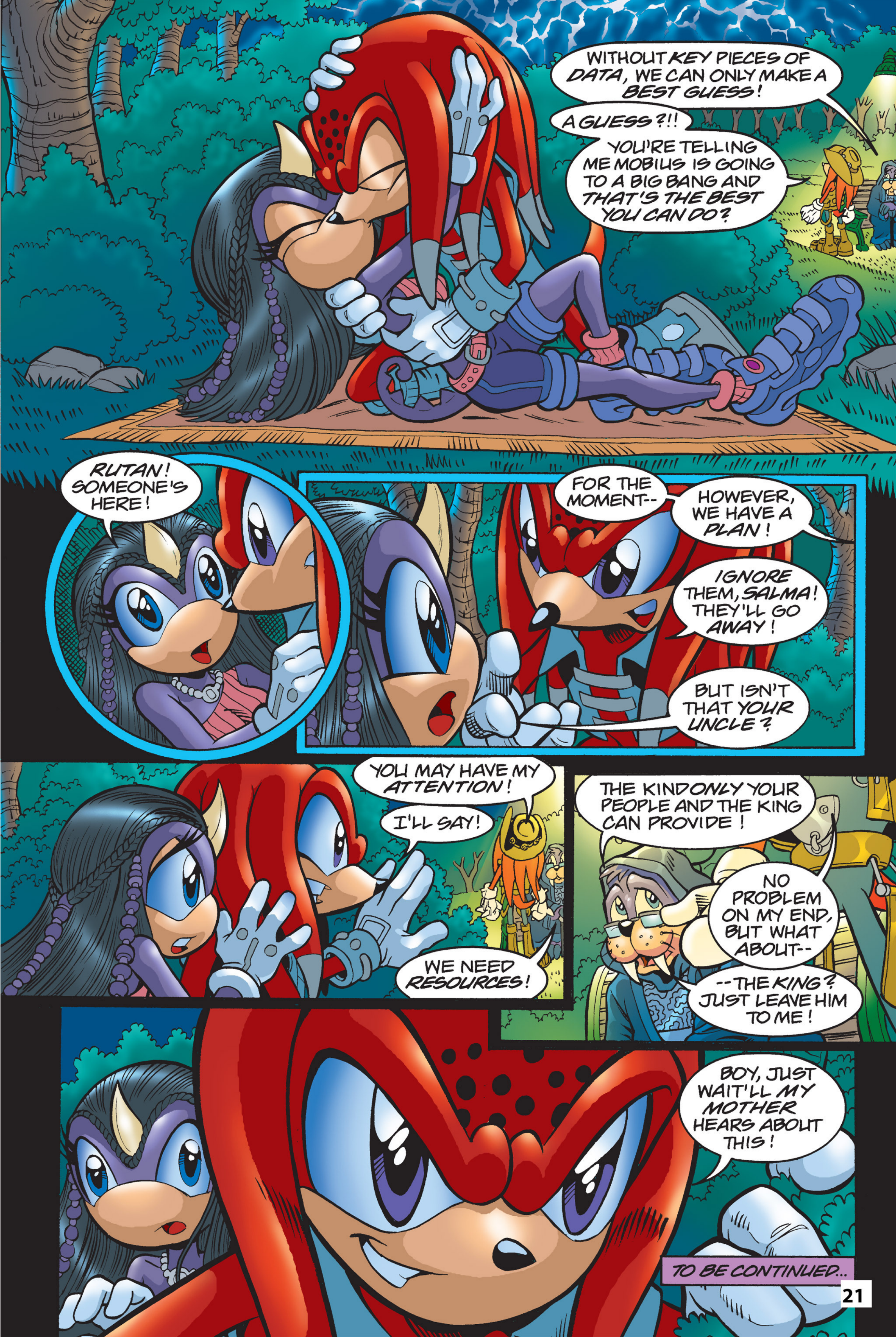
WRITER / INKER: **KEN PENDERS** PENCILER: **STEVEN BUTLER**
LETTERER: **V. WILLIAMS** COLORIST: **JENSEN** EDITOR: **JUSTIN GABRIE**


FAR FROM IT!
I WANT YOU TO *WATCH* THE SKIES!
HUH?!
YOU MEAN YOU DRAGGED ME OUT HERE *BECAUSE* OF THE *WEATHER*?
ARE YOU *NUTS*?!!
I'M QUITE SERIOUS! JUST WATCH!
NOTICE ANYTHING?
DOESN'T SEEM ANY *FUNKIER* THAN *OTHER* WEATHER PATTERNS I'VE SEEN *BEFORE*!
YOU BETTER GET *USED* TO IT!
I SERIOUSLY *DOUBT* YOU'LL BE SEEING *SUNSHINE* ANYTIME SOON!
AFRAID YOU *LOST* ME!
DID YOU AND *COBAR* HAVE AN *EXPERIMENT* GO HAYWIRE?
I *WISH* IT WERE THAT SIMPLE!
WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING AT--
--MAY JUST BE THE *BEGINNING* OF THE *END*!


"THE END OF WHAT?"
I THOUGHT TONIGHT WENT REALLY WELL, HONEY--
--SO, WHY THE FROWN?
I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO SPEND THE NIGHT OUT!
MY GIRLFRIENDS GOT TO DO IT AFTER THEIR UNVEILINGS!
I'M NOT THEIR MOTHER!
YOU'RE SO-- SO-- OVERPROTECTIVE AT TIMES, MOM!
YOU ACT AS IF THAT'S A BAD THING!
I'M SIXTEEN, MOM--
--YET YOU AND DAD TREAT ME LIKE A KID!
CAN'T HELP IT, LARA SU!
YOU ARE OUR BABY, AFTER ALL!
MOMMMM!
DAD WAS ON HIS OWN BY THE TIME HE WAS TEN--
--AND YOU DIDN'T HAVE PARENTS WATCHING YOUR EVERY MOVE, EITHER!!!
YES, I DID!
I JUST DIDN'T KNOW IT AT THE TIME!
LIKE THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE?


SURE DOES!
WHAT ABOUT THE FACT YOU AND DAD AREN'T EVEN--
LET'S NOT GO THERE, SHALL WE?
"LET'S NOT GO THERE, SHALL WE?"
SEE WHAT I *MEAN*?
YOU DON'T TAKE ME *SERIOUSLY* AT ALL!
WAIT'LL *YOU'RE* A MOTHER *SOMEDAY*!
THEN WE'LL SEE HOW YOU TREAT *YOUR* DAUGHTER!
WHAT IF I HAVE *BOYS*?
DOES IT *MATTER*?
YESSSSS!!!
I WOULDN'T BE ON THEIR CASE LIKE *YOU* ARE ON *MINE*!
DON'T COUNT ON IT!
ALL YOUR FATHER AND I WANT IS WHAT'S *BEST* FOR YOU!
DON'T I HAVE A SAY IN THE MATTER?
NO!
BESIDES--

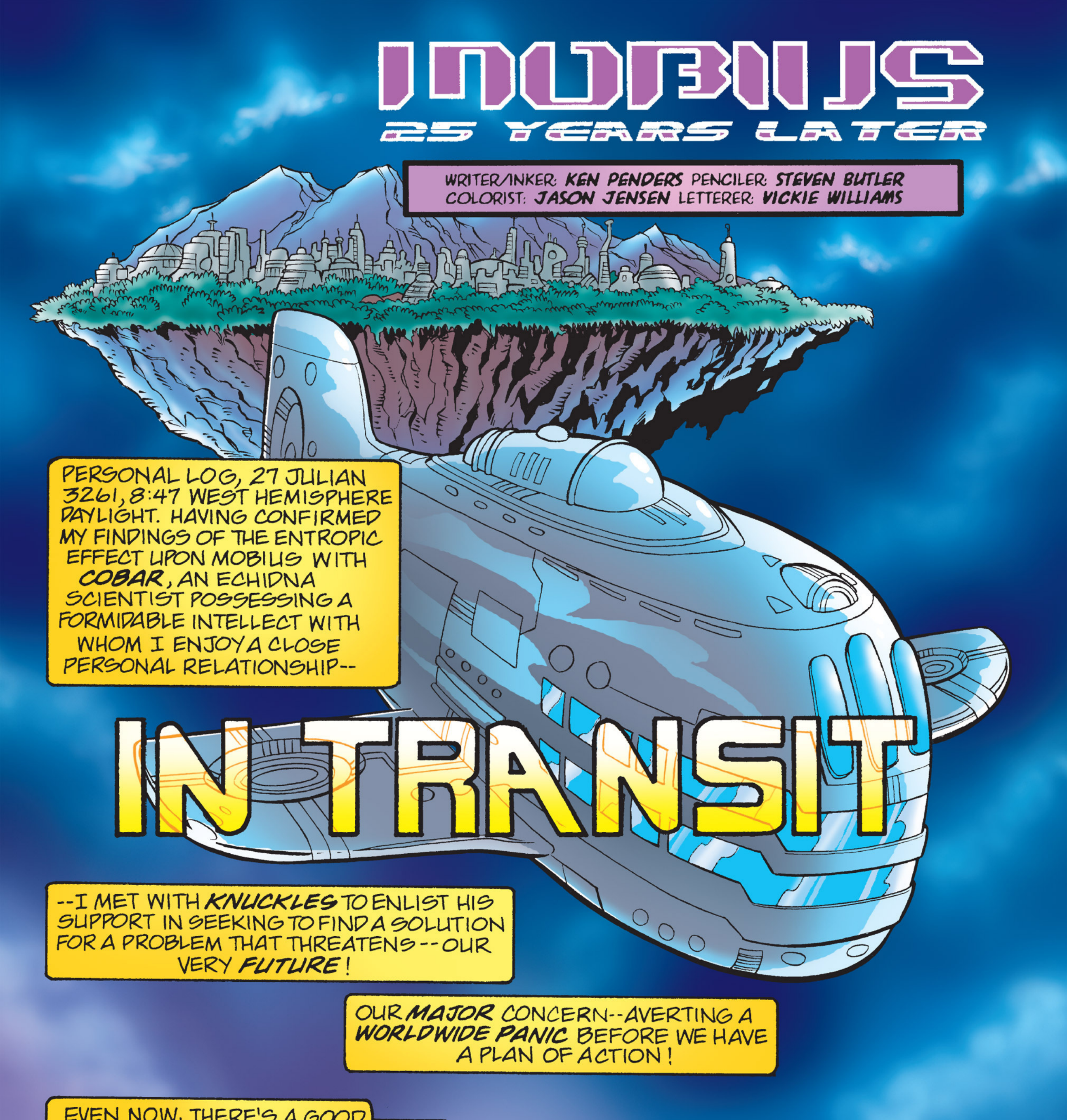

"--WHAT FUN *COULD* YOU HAVE WITH THE WEATHER GETTING *NASTY* OUT THERE--?"
YOU'RE *NUTS*, YOU KNOW THAT?
YOU EXPECT ME TO *BELIEVE* WHAT YOU SAY BECAUSE OF SOME *LIGHTNING*?
CERTAINLY NOT!
ACTUALLY, THERE WERE A NUMBER OF FACTORS--
--THE TIDES, ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE, TEMPERATURE, ETC.-- WHEN ALL *COMBINED*--
--POINT TO A *VERY DISTURBING* CONCLUSION!
THERE IS A CHANCE YOU GUYS *COULD* BE WRONG!
ABSOLUTELY, AND I WISH I *WERE*!
BUT, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES--
--CAN ANYONE AFFORD TO TAKE THE CHANCE THAT WE'RE *NOT*?
HOW *LONG* HAVE WE GOT?

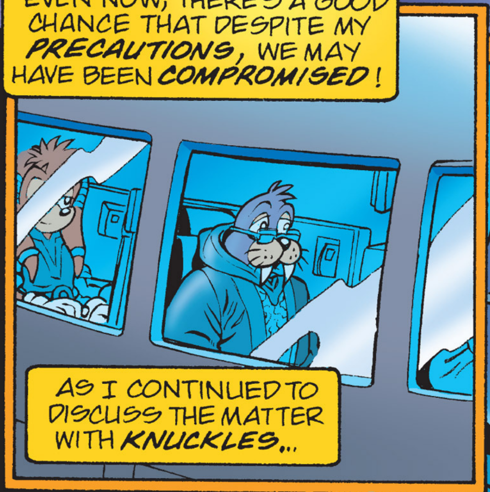

WITHOUT KEY PIECES OF DATA, WE CAN ONLY MAKE A BEST GUESS!
A GUESS?!!
YOU'RE TELLING ME MOBIUS IS GOING TO A BIG BANG AND THAT'S THE BEST YOU CAN DO?
RUTAN! SOMEONE'S HERE!
FOR THE MOMENT--
HOWEVER, WE HAVE A PLAN!
IGNORE THEM, SALMA! THEY'LL GO AWAY!
BUT ISN'T THAT YOUR UNCLE?
YOU MAY HAVE MY ATTENTION!
I'LL SAY!
WE NEED RESOURCES!
THE KIND ONLY YOUR PEOPLE AND THE KING CAN PROVIDE!
NO PROBLEM ON MY END, BUT WHAT ABOUT--
--THE KING? JUST LEAVE HIM TO ME!
BOY, JUST WAIT'LL MY MOTHER HEARS ABOUT THIS!
TO BE CONTINUED...

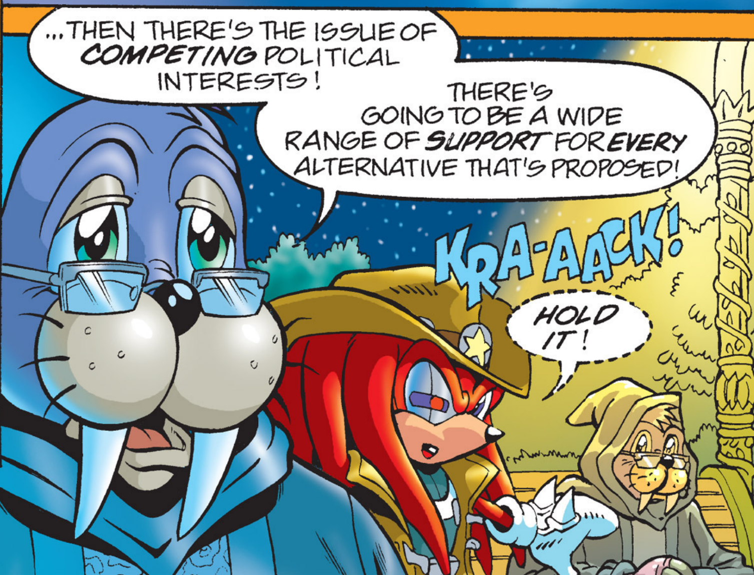
MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER

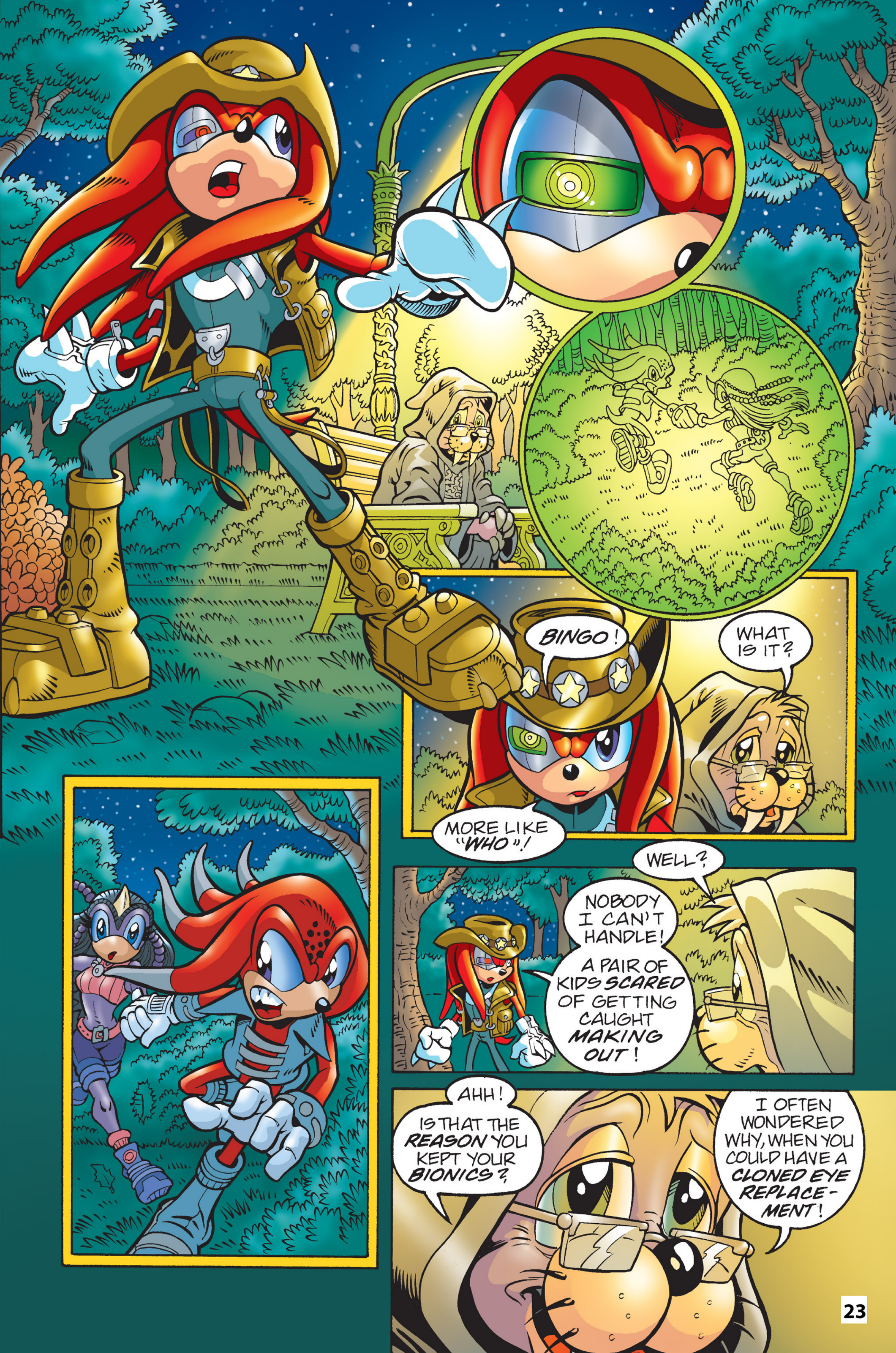
WRITER/INKER: **KEN PENDERS** PENCILER: **STEVEN BUTLER**
COLORIST: **JASON JENSEN** LETTERER: **VICKIE WILLIAMS**

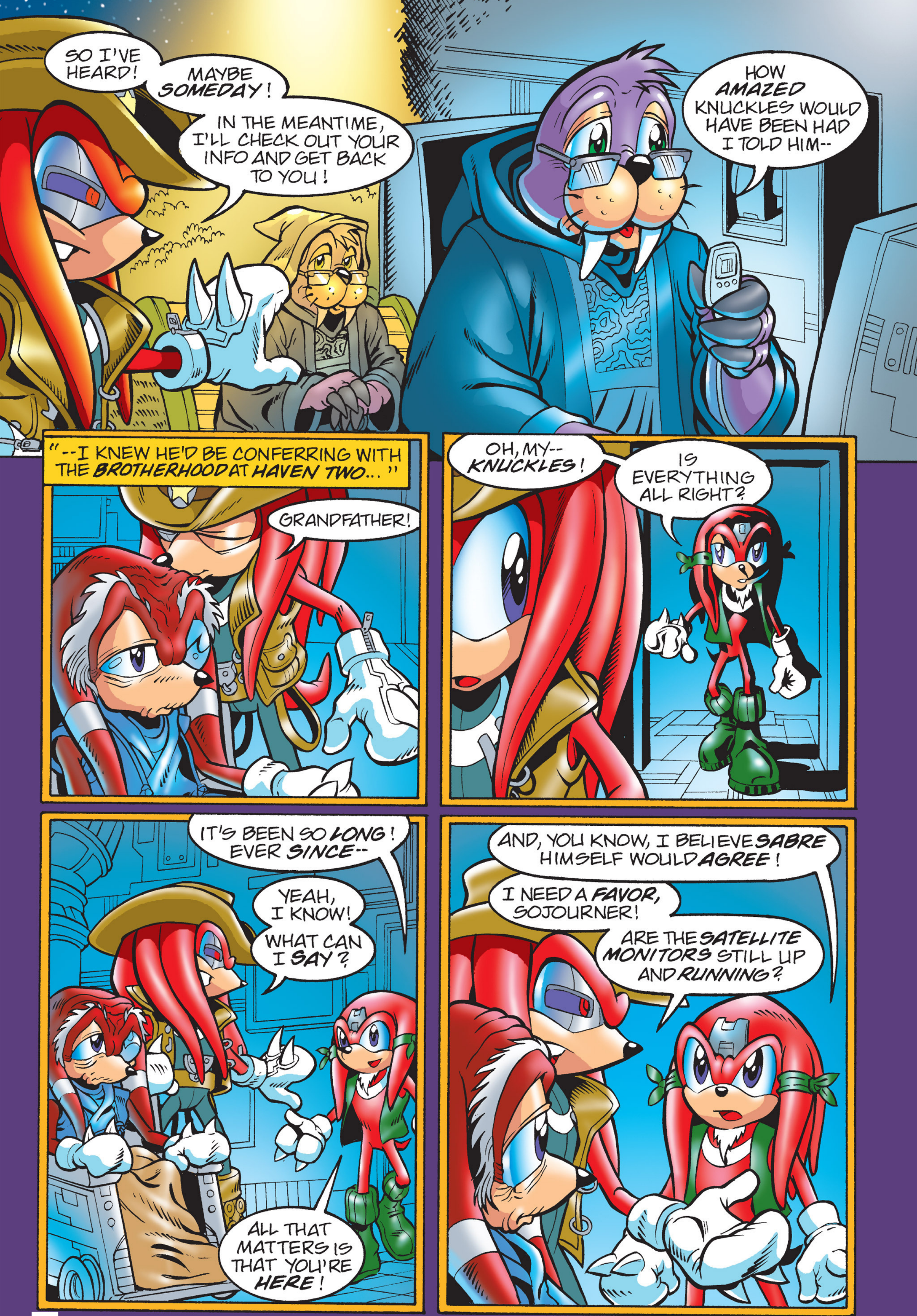
IN TRANSIT

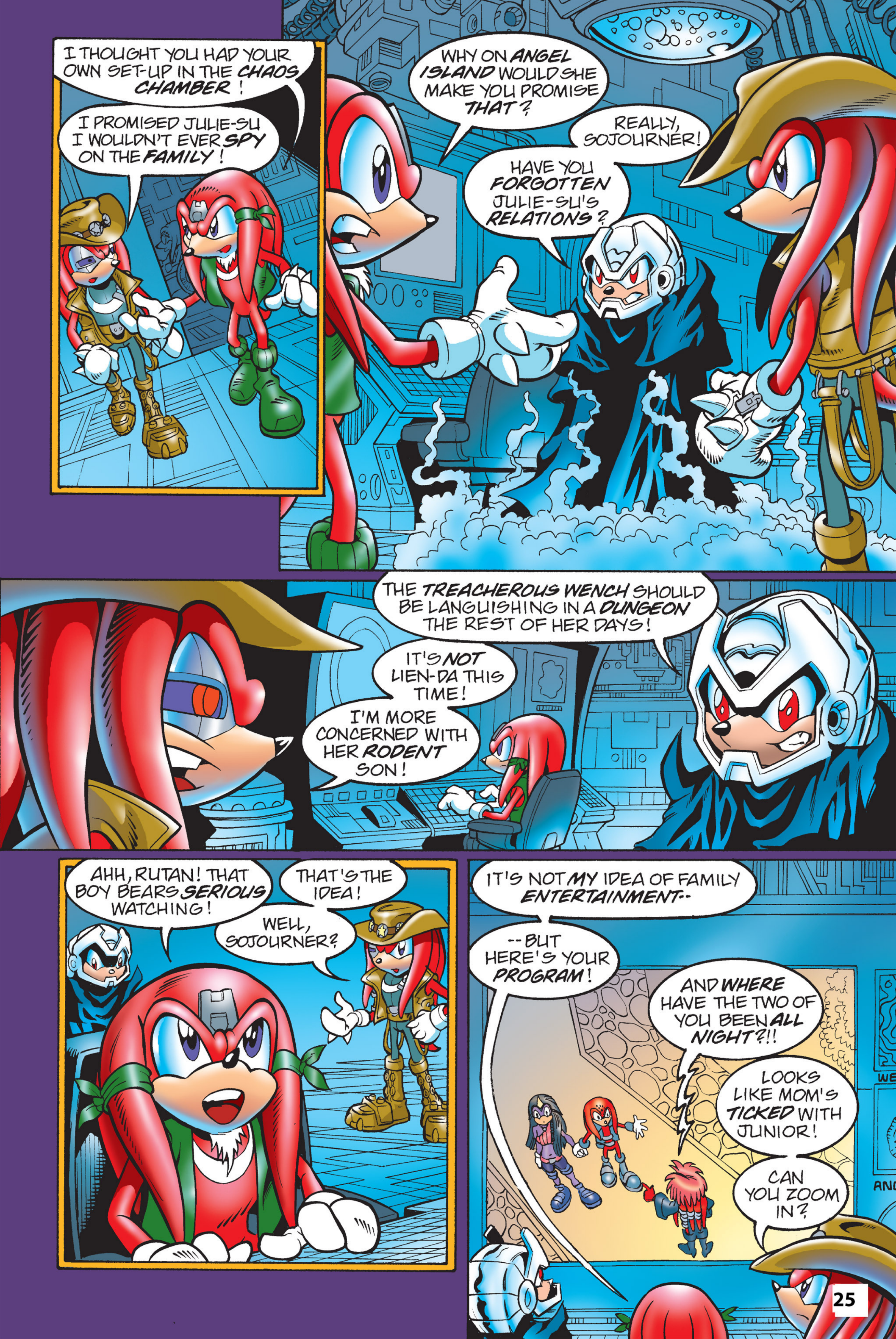

PERSONAL LOG, 27 JULIAN 3261, 8:47 WEST HEMISPHERE DAYLIGHT. HAVING CONFIRMED MY FINDINGS OF THE ENTROPIC EFFECT UPON MOBIUS WITH **COBAR**, AN ECHIDNA SCIENTIST POSSESSING A FORMIDABLE INTELLECT WITH WHOM I ENJOY A CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP--
--I MET WITH **KNUCKLES** TO ENLIST HIS SUPPORT IN SEEKING TO FIND A SOLUTION FOR A PROBLEM THAT THREATENS--OUR VERY **FUTURE**!
OUR **MAJOR** CONCERN--AVERTING A **WORLDWIDE PANIC** BEFORE WE HAVE A PLAN OF ACTION!

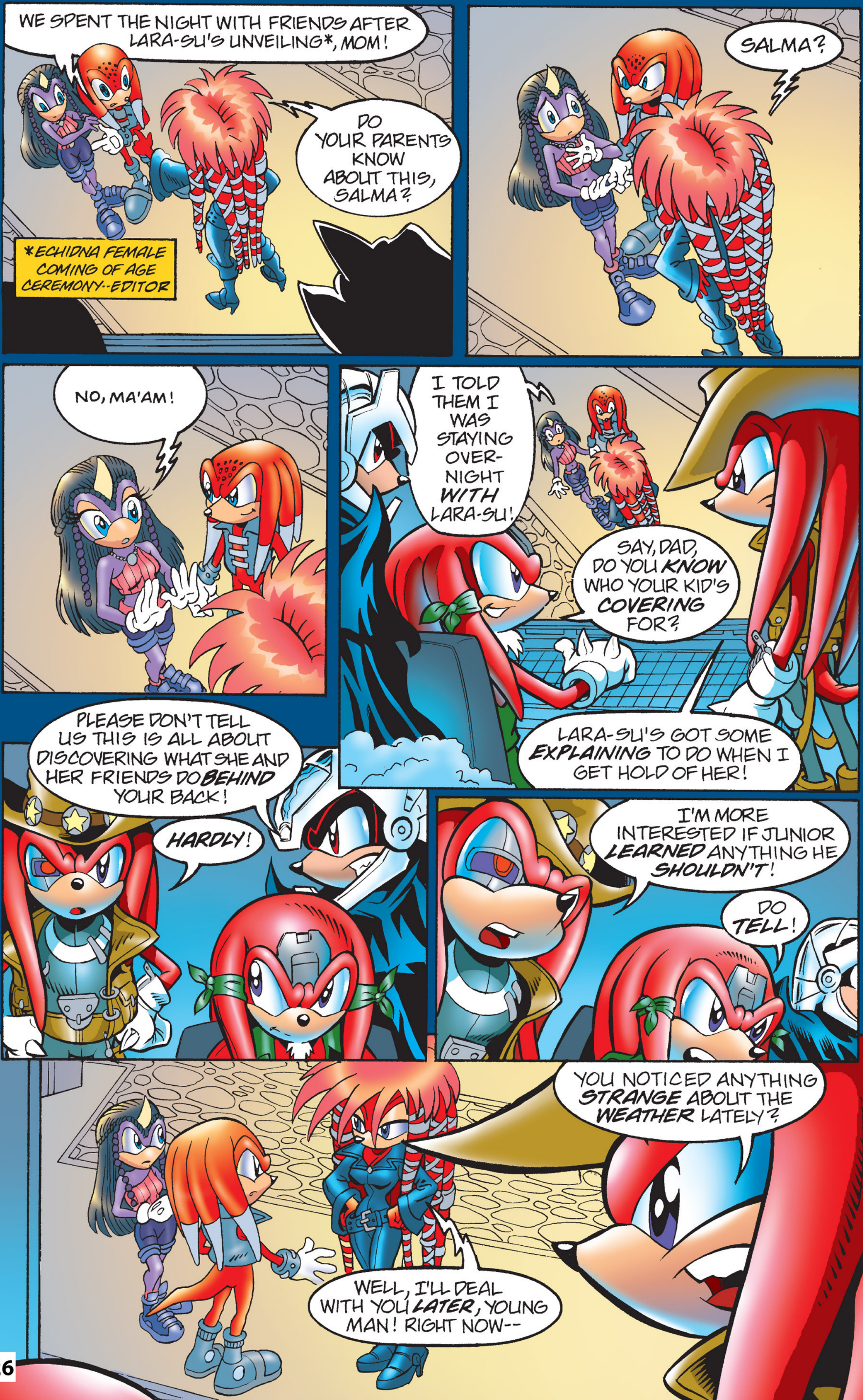

EVEN NOW, THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT DESPITE MY **PRECAUTIONS**, WE MAY HAVE BEEN **COMPROMISED**!
AS I CONTINUED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH **KNUCKLES**...

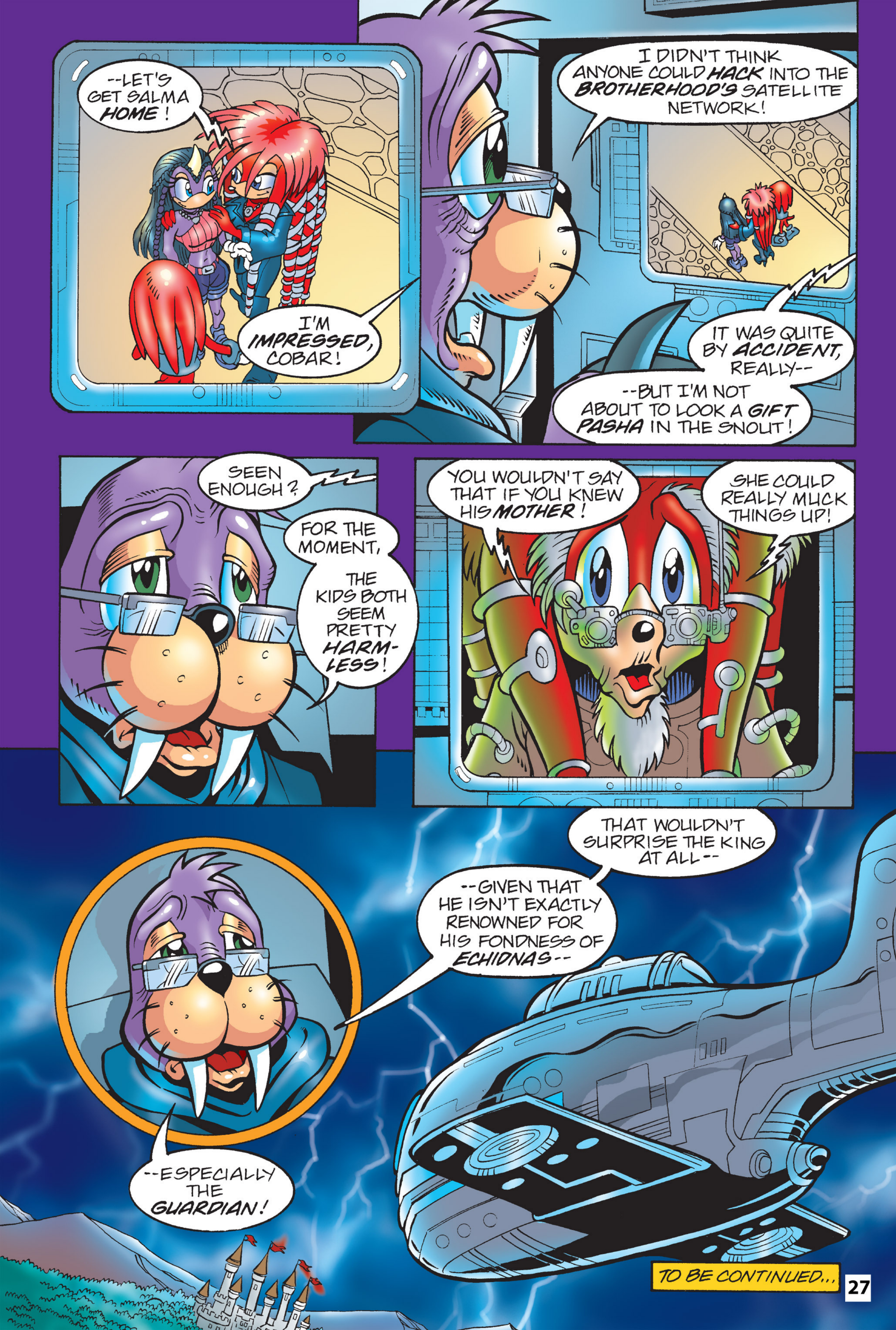

...THEN THERE'S THE ISSUE OF **COMPETING** POLITICAL INTERESTS!
THERE'S GOING TO BE A WIDE RANGE OF **SUPPORT** FOR **EVERY** ALTERNATIVE THAT'S PROPOSED!
KRA-AACK!
HOLD IT!


BINGO!
WHAT IS IT?
MORE LIKE "*WHO*"!
WELL?
NOBODY I CAN'T HANDLE!
A PAIR OF KIDS *SCARED* OF GETTING CAUGHT *MAKING OUT*!
AHH!
IS THAT THE *REASON* YOU KEPT YOUR *BIONICS*?
I OFTEN WONDERED WHY, WHEN YOU COULD HAVE A *CLONED EYE REPLACEMENT*!


SO I'VE HEARD!
MAYBE *SOMEDAY*!
IN THE MEANTIME, I'LL CHECK OUT YOUR INFO AND GET BACK TO YOU!
HOW *AMAZED* KNUCKLES WOULD HAVE BEEN HAD I TOLD HIM--
"--I KNEW HE'D BE CONFERRING WITH THE *BROTHERHOOD* AT *HAVEN TWO*..."
GRANDFATHER!
OH, MY-- *KNUCKLES*!
IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
IT'S BEEN SO *LONG*! EVER *SINCE*--
YEAH, I KNOW!
WHAT CAN I *SAY*?
ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT YOU'RE *HERE*!
AND, YOU KNOW, I BELIEVE *SABRE* HIMSELF WOULD *AGREE*!
I NEED A *FAVOR*, SOJOURNER!
ARE THE *SATELLITE MONITORS* STILL UP AND *RUNNING*?


I THOUGHT YOU HAD YOUR OWN SET-UP IN THE CHAOS CHAMBER!
I PROMISED JULIE-SU I WOULDN'T EVER SPY ON THE FAMILY!
WHY ON ANGEL ISLAND WOULD SHE MAKE YOU PROMISE THAT?
REALLY, SOJOURNER!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN JULIE-SU'S RELATIONS?
THE TREACHEROUS WENCH SHOULD BE LANGUISHING IN A DUNGEON THE REST OF HER DAYS!
IT'S NOT LIEN-DA THIS TIME!
I'M MORE CONCERNED WITH HER RODENT SON!
AHH, RUTAN! THAT BOY BEARS SERIOUS WATCHING!
THAT'S THE IDEA!
WELL, SOJOURNER?
IT'S NOT MY IDEA OF FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT--
--BUT HERE'S YOUR PROGRAM!
AND WHERE HAVE THE TWO OF YOU BEEN ALL NIGHT?!!
LOOKS LIKE MOM'S TICKED WITH JUNIOR!
CAN YOU ZOOM IN?

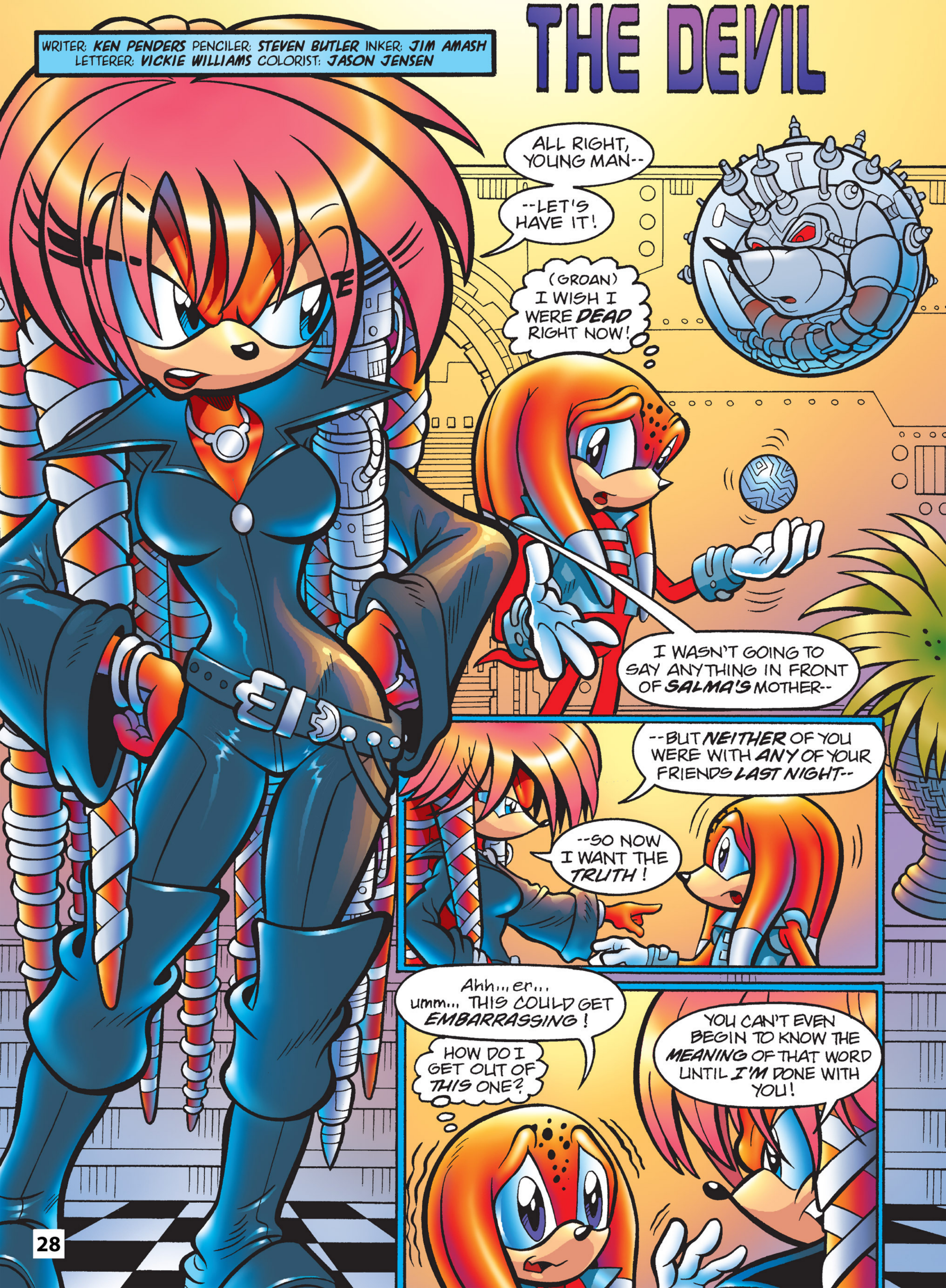

WE SPENT THE NIGHT WITH FRIENDS AFTER LARA-SU'S UNVEILING*, MOM!
DO YOUR PARENTS KNOW ABOUT THIS, SALMA?
*ECHIDNA FEMALE COMING OF AGE CEREMONY--EDITOR
SALMA?
NO, MA'AM!
I TOLD THEM I WAS STAYING OVER-NIGHT *WITH* LARA-SU!
SAY, DAD, DO YOU *KNOW* WHO YOUR KID'S *COVERING* FOR?
LARA-SU'S GOT SOME *EXPLAINING* TO DO WHEN I GET HOLD OF HER!
PLEASE DON'T TELL US THIS IS ALL ABOUT DISCOVERING WHAT SHE AND HER FRIENDS DO *BEHIND* YOUR BACK!
HARDLY!
I'M MORE INTERESTED IF JUNIOR *LEARNED* ANYTHING HE *SHOULDN'T*!
DO *TELL*!
YOU NOTICED ANYTHING *STRANGE* ABOUT THE *WEATHER* LATELY?
WELL, I'LL DEAL WITH YOU *LATER*, YOUNG MAN! RIGHT NOW--

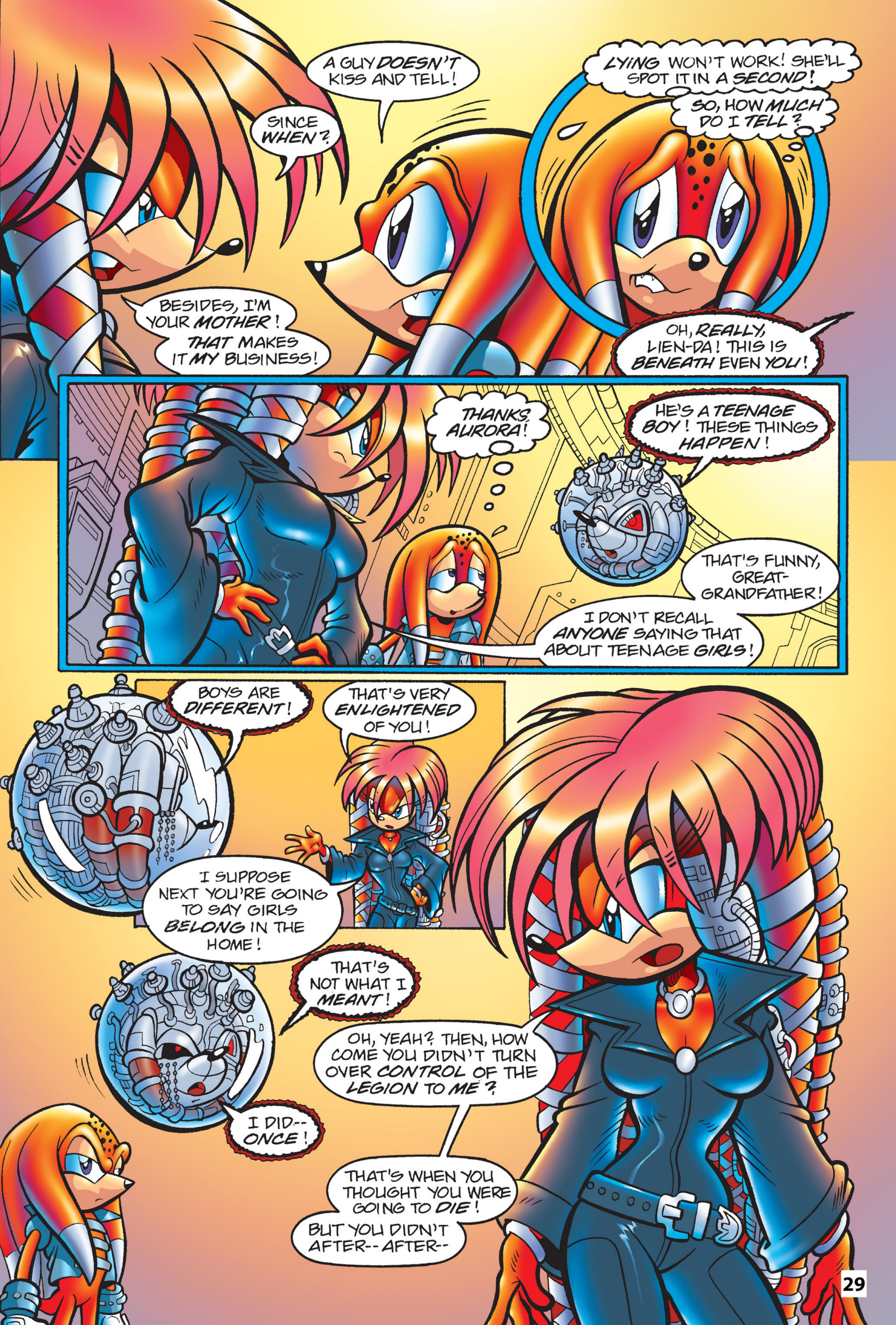

--LET'S GET SALMA HOME!
I'M IMPRESSED, COBAR!
I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE COULD HACK INTO THE BROTHERHOOD'S SATELLITE NETWORK!
IT WAS QUITE BY ACCIDENT, REALLY--
--BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO LOOK A GIFT PASHA IN THE SNOUT!
SEEN ENOUGH?
FOR THE MOMENT,
THE KIDS BOTH SEEM PRETTY HARMLESS!
YOU WOULDN'T SAY THAT IF YOU KNEW HIS MOTHER!
SHE COULD REALLY MUCK THINGS UP!
THAT WOULDN'T SURPRISE THE KING AT ALL--
--GIVEN THAT HE ISN'T EXACTLY RENOWNED FOR HIS FONDNESS OF ECHIDNAS--
--ESPECIALLY THE GUARDIAN!
TO BE CONTINUED...

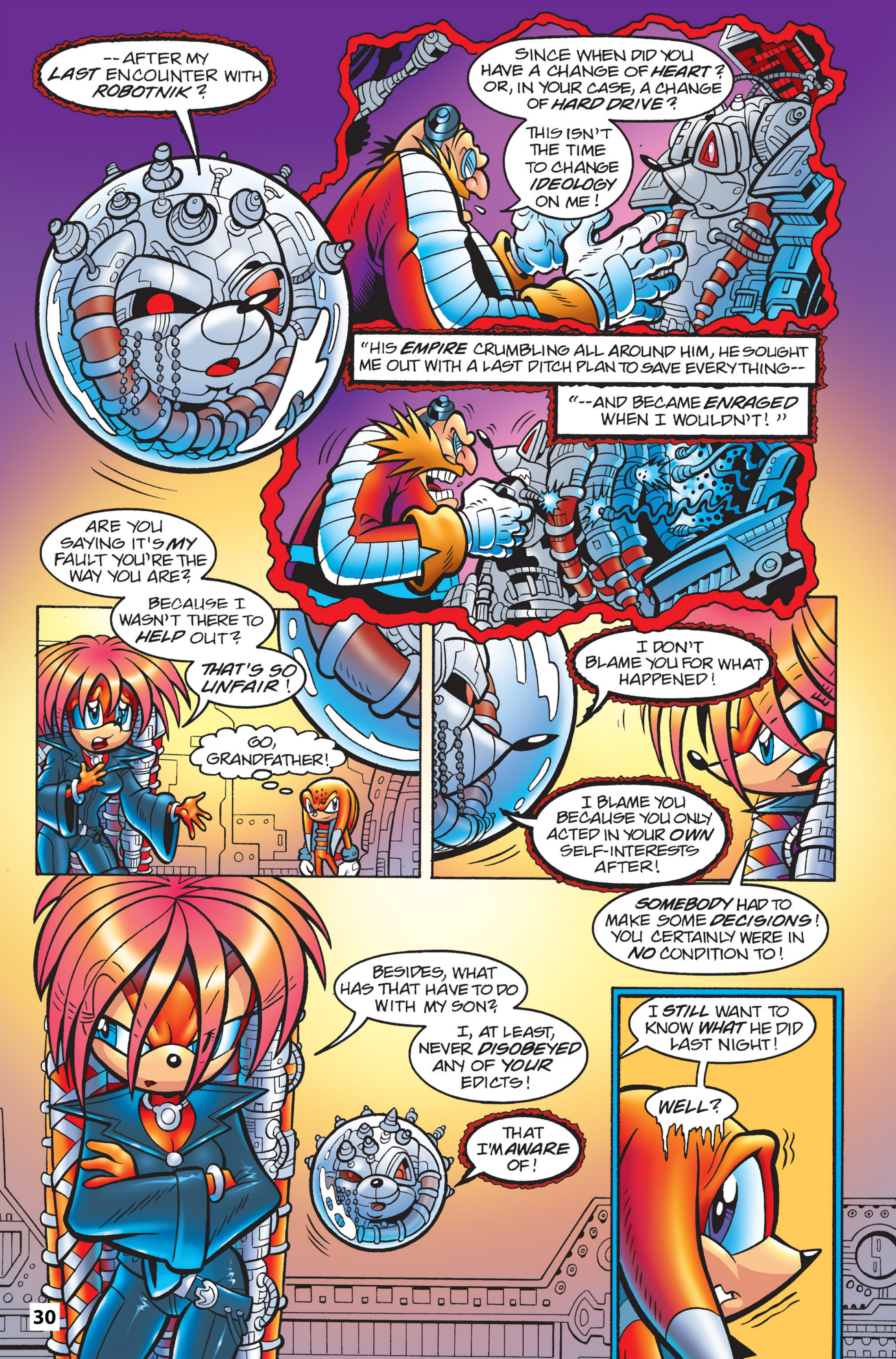
MOBIUS 25 YEARS LATER

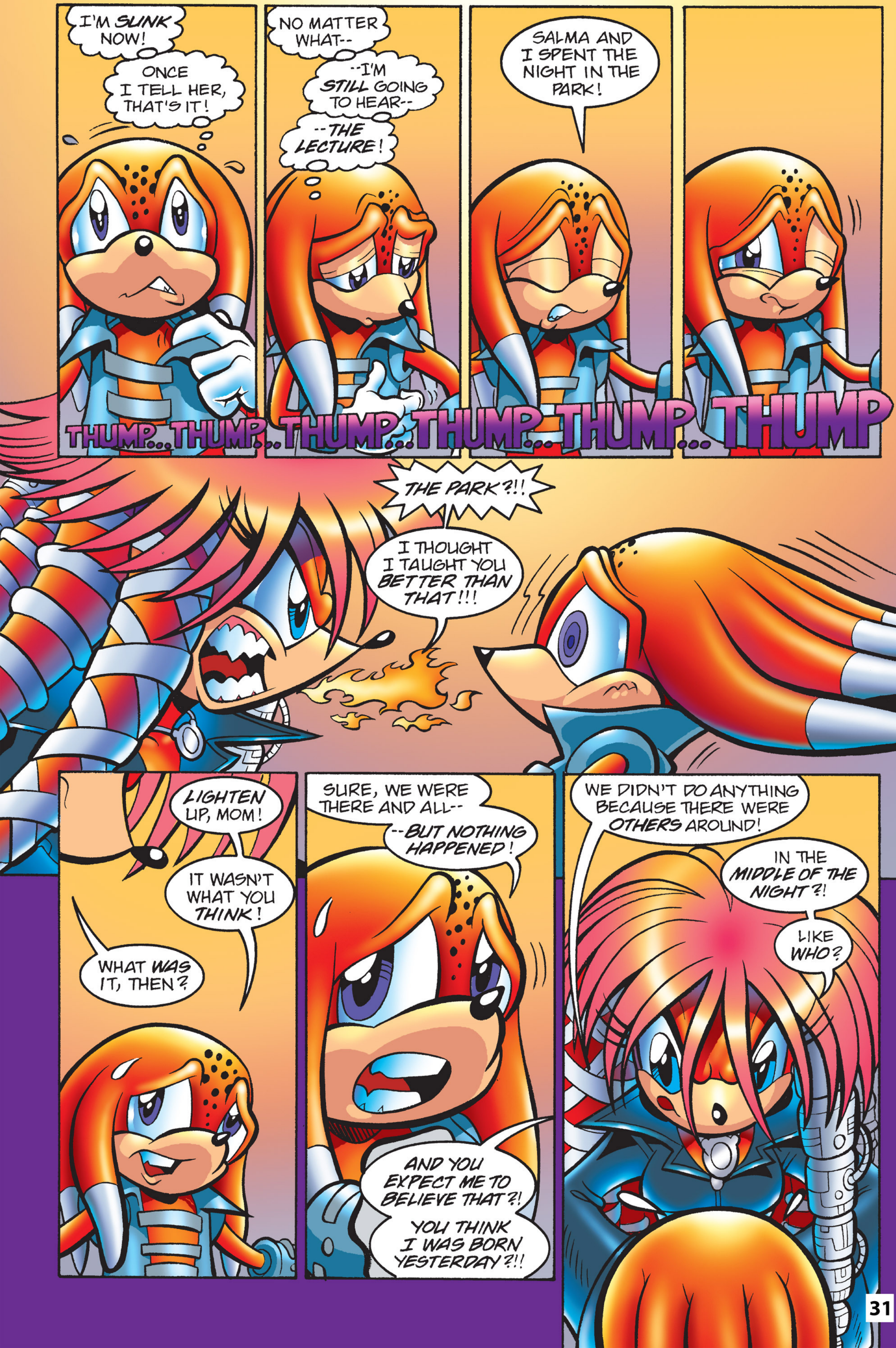
DEALING WITH THE DEVIL

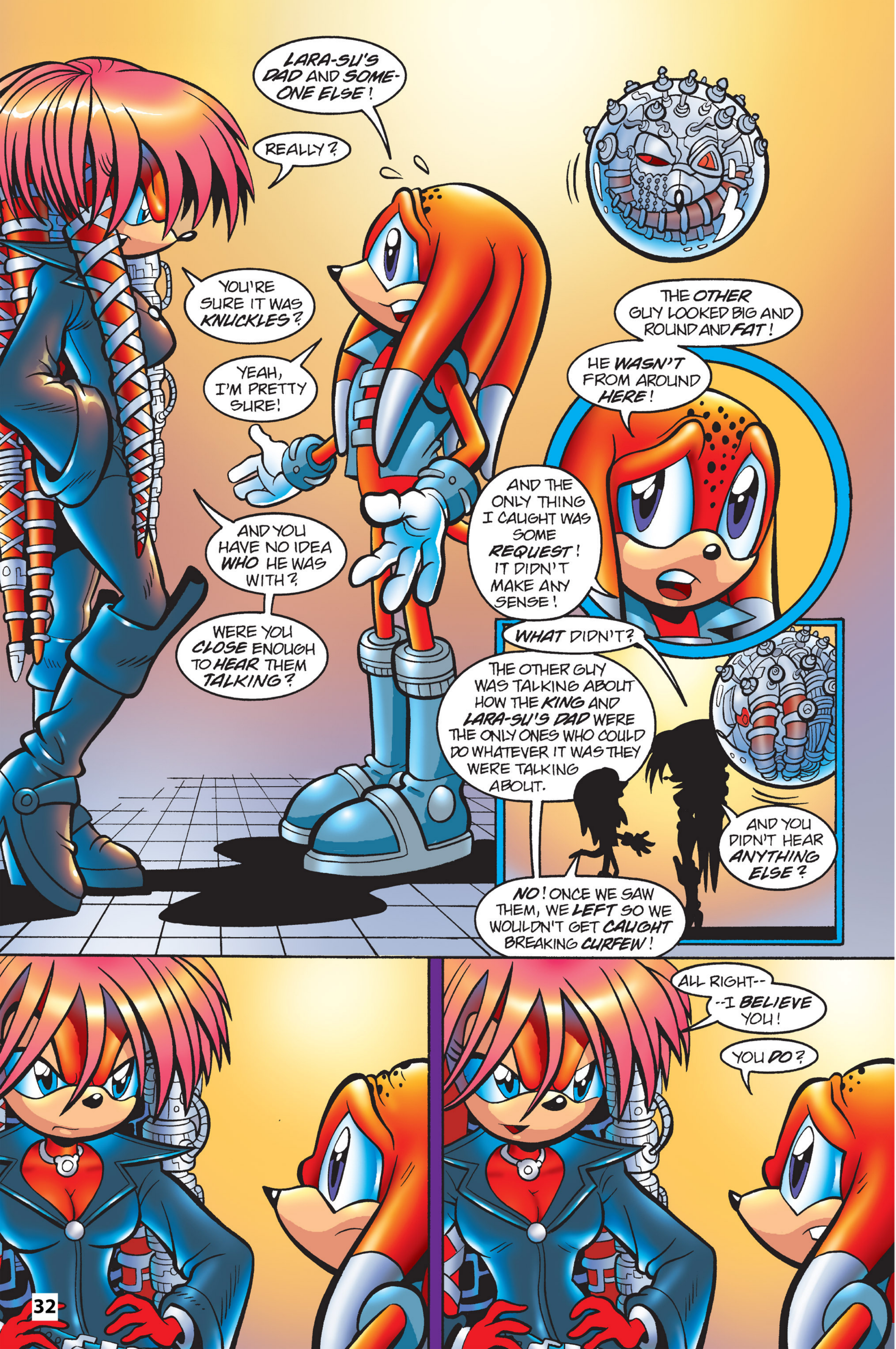
WRITER: **KEN PENDERS** PENCILER: **STEVEN BUTLER** INKER: **JIM AMASH**
LETTERER: **VICKIE WILLIAMS** COLORIST: **JASON JENSEN**

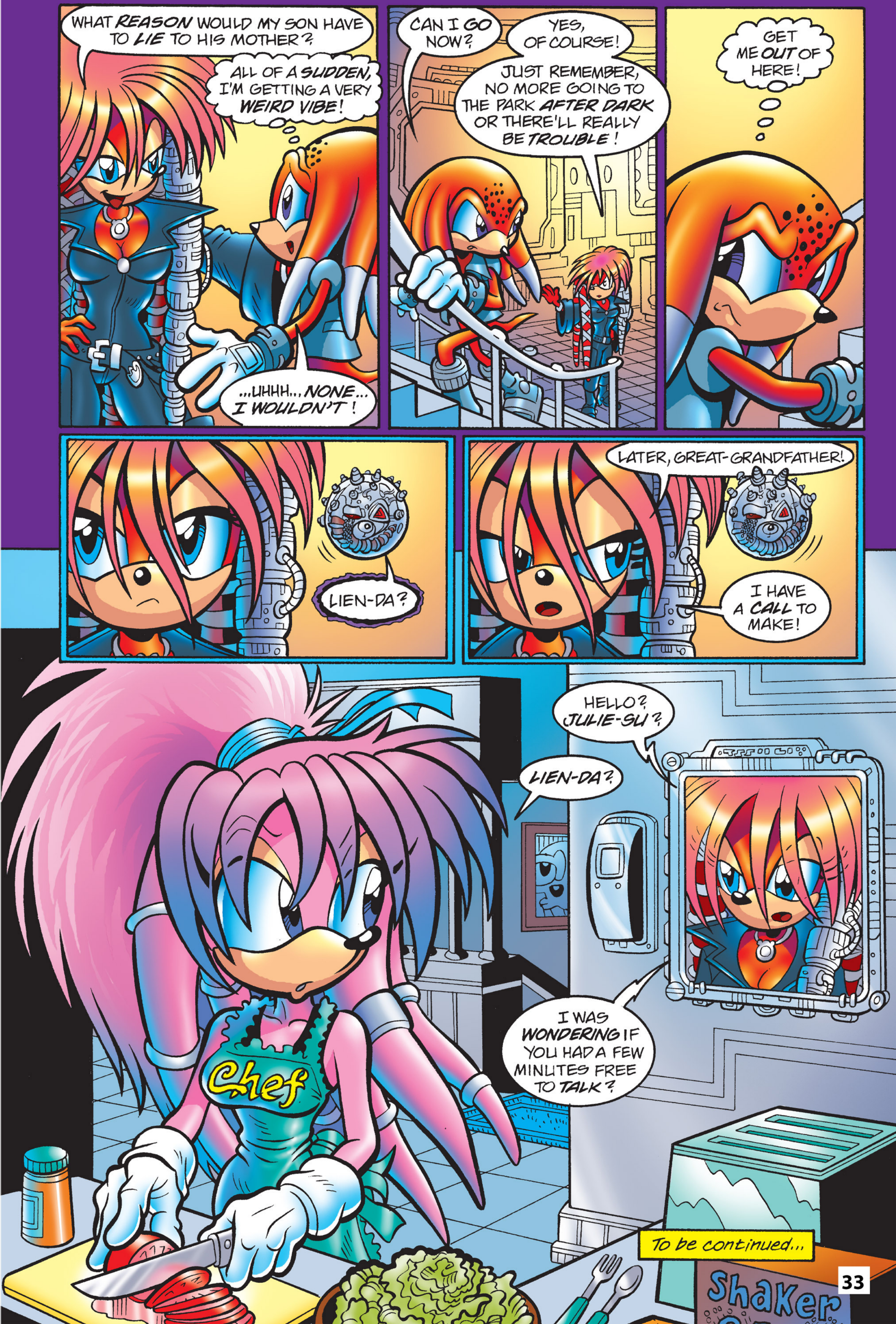

ALL RIGHT, YOUNG MAN--
--LET'S HAVE IT!
(GROAN) I WISH I WERE *DEAD* RIGHT NOW!
I WASN'T GOING TO SAY ANYTHING IN FRONT OF *SALMA'S* MOTHER--
--BUT *NEITHER* OF YOU WERE WITH *ANY* OF YOUR FRIENDS *LAST NIGHT*--
--SO NOW I WANT THE *TRUTH*!
Ahh... er... umm... THIS COULD GET *EMBARRASSING*!
HOW DO I GET OUT OF *THIS* ONE?
YOU CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO KNOW THE *MEANING* OF THAT WORD UNTIL *I'M* DONE WITH YOU!


SINCE *WHEN*?
A GUY *DOESN'T* KISS AND TELL!
LYING WON'T WORK! SHE'LL SPOT IT IN A *SECOND*!
SO, HOW *MUCH* DO I *TELL*?
BESIDES, I'M YOUR *MOTHER*! *THAT* MAKES IT *MY* BUSINESS!
OH, *REALLY*, LIEN-DA! THIS IS *BENEATH* EVEN *YOU*!
THANKS, AURORA!
HE'S A *TEENAGE BOY*! THESE THINGS *HAPPEN*!
THAT'S FUNNY, GREAT-GRANDFATHER!
I DON'T RECALL *ANYONE* SAYING THAT ABOUT TEENAGE *GIRLS*!
BOYS ARE *DIFFERENT*!
THAT'S VERY *ENLIGHTENED* OF YOU!
I SUPPOSE NEXT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY GIRLS *BELONG* IN THE HOME!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I *MEANT*!
OH, YEAH? THEN, HOW COME YOU DIDN'T TURN OVER *CONTROL* OF THE *LEGION* TO *ME*?
I DID-- *ONCE*!
THAT'S WHEN YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO *DIE*!
BUT YOU DIDN'T AFTER-- AFTER--


--AFTER MY *LAST* ENCOUNTER WITH *ROBOTNIK*?
SINCE WHEN DID YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF *HEART*? OR, IN YOUR CASE, A CHANGE OF *HARD DRIVE*?
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO CHANGE *IDEOLOGY* ON ME!
"HIS *EMPIRE* CRUMBLING ALL AROUND HIM, HE SOUGHT ME OUT WITH A LAST DITCH PLAN TO SAVE EVERYTHING--
"--AND BECAME *ENRAGED* WHEN I WOULDN'T!"
ARE YOU SAYING IT'S *MY* FAULT YOU'RE THE WAY YOU ARE?
BECAUSE I WASN'T THERE TO *HELP* OUT?
THAT'S SO UNFAIR!
GO, GRANDFATHER!
I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR WHAT HAPPENED!
I BLAME YOU BECAUSE YOU ONLY ACTED IN YOUR *OWN* SELF-INTERESTS AFTER!
SOMEBODY HAD TO MAKE SOME *DECISIONS*! YOU CERTAINLY WERE IN *NO* CONDITION TO!
BESIDES, WHAT HAS THAT HAVE TO DO WITH MY SON?
I, AT LEAST, NEVER *DISOBEYED* ANY OF *YOUR* EDICTS!
THAT I'M *AWARE* OF!
I *STILL* WANT TO KNOW *WHAT* HE DID LAST NIGHT!
WELL?


I'M *SUNK* NOW!
ONCE I TELL HER, THAT'S IT!
NO MATTER WHAT--
--I'M *STILL* GOING TO HEAR--
--*THE LECTURE*!
SALMA AND I SPENT THE NIGHT IN THE PARK!
THUMP...THUMP...THUMP...THUMP...THUMP...THUMP
THE PARK?!!
I THOUGHT I TAUGHT YOU *BETTER THAN THAT*!!!
LIGHTEN UP, MOM!
IT WASN'T WHAT YOU *THINK*!
WHAT *WAS* IT, THEN?
SURE, WE WERE THERE AND ALL--
--*BUT NOTHING HAPPENED*!
AND YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT?!
YOU THINK I WAS BORN YESTERDAY?!!
WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING BECAUSE THERE WERE *OTHERS* AROUND!
IN THE *MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?!*
LIKE *WHO?*


LARA-SU'S DAD AND SOMEONE ELSE!
REALLY?
YOU'RE SURE IT WAS KNUCKLES?
YEAH, I'M PRETTY SURE!
AND YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO HE WAS WITH?
WERE YOU CLOSE ENOUGH TO HEAR THEM TALKING?
THE OTHER GUY LOOKED BIG AND ROUND AND FAT!
HE WASN'T FROM AROUND HERE!
AND THE ONLY THING I CAUGHT WAS SOME REQUEST! IT DIDN'T MAKE ANY SENSE!
WHAT DIDN'T?
THE OTHER GUY WAS TALKING ABOUT HOW THE KING AND LARA-SU'S DAD WERE THE ONLY ONES WHO COULD DO WHATEVER IT WAS THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT.
AND YOU DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING ELSE?
NO! ONCE WE SAW THEM, WE LEFT SO WE WOULDN'T GET CAUGHT BREAKING CURFEW!
ALL RIGHT--
--I BELIEVE YOU!
YOU DO?

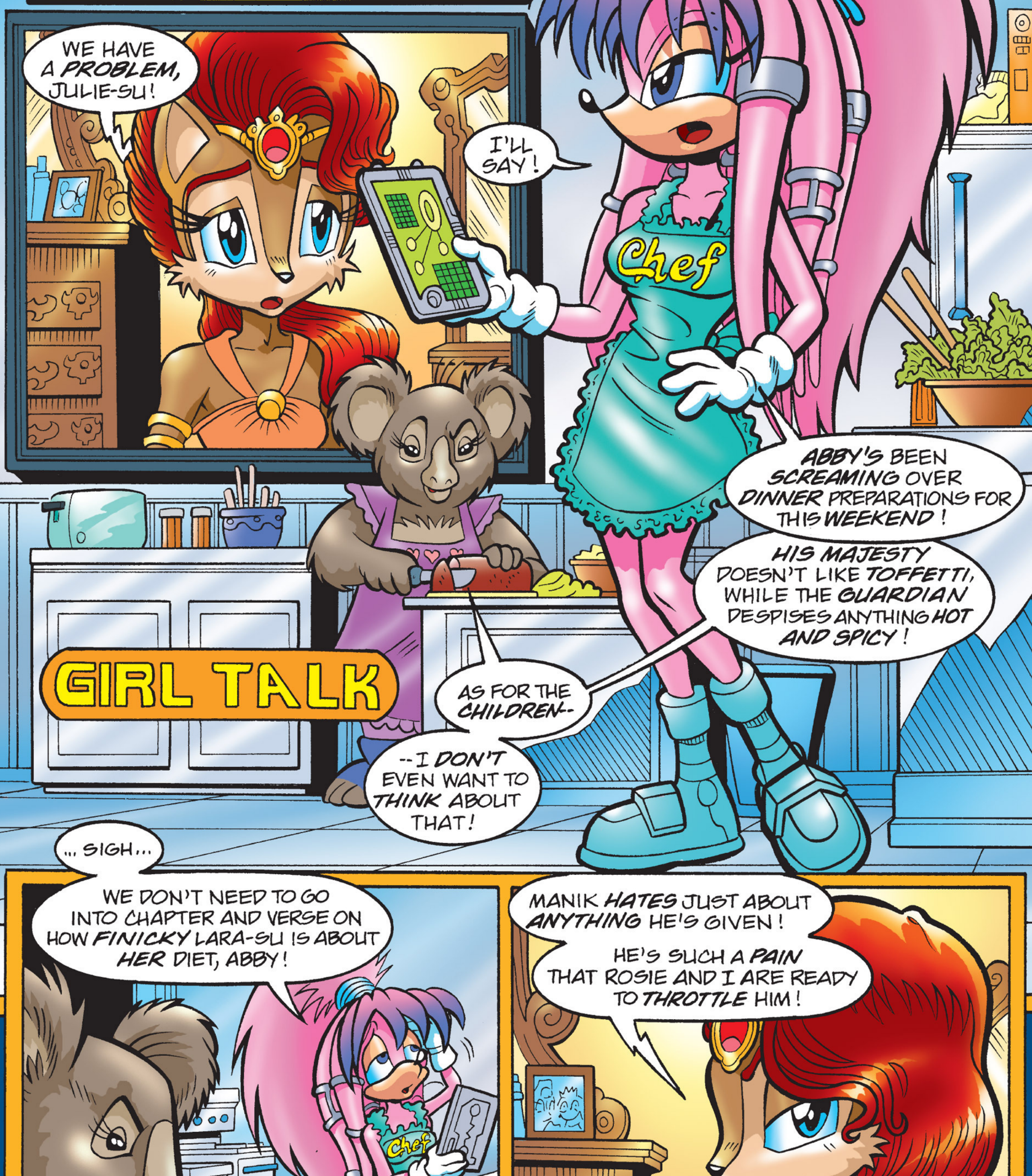

WHAT *REASON* WOULD MY SON HAVE TO *LIE* TO HIS MOTHER?
ALL OF A *SUDDEN*, I'M GETTING A VERY *WEIRD VIBE*!
...UHHH... *NONE*... *I WOULDN'T*!
CAN I *GO* NOW?
YES, OF COURSE!
JUST REMEMBER, NO MORE GOING TO THE PARK *AFTER DARK* OR THERE'LL REALLY BE *TROUBLE*!
GET ME *OUT* OF HERE!
LIEN-DA?
LATER, GREAT-GRANDFATHER!
I HAVE A *CALL* TO MAKE!
HELLO? *JULIE-SU*?
LIEN-DA?
I WAS *WONDERING* IF YOU HAD A FEW MINUTES FREE TO *TALK*?
Chef
To be continued...
Shaker

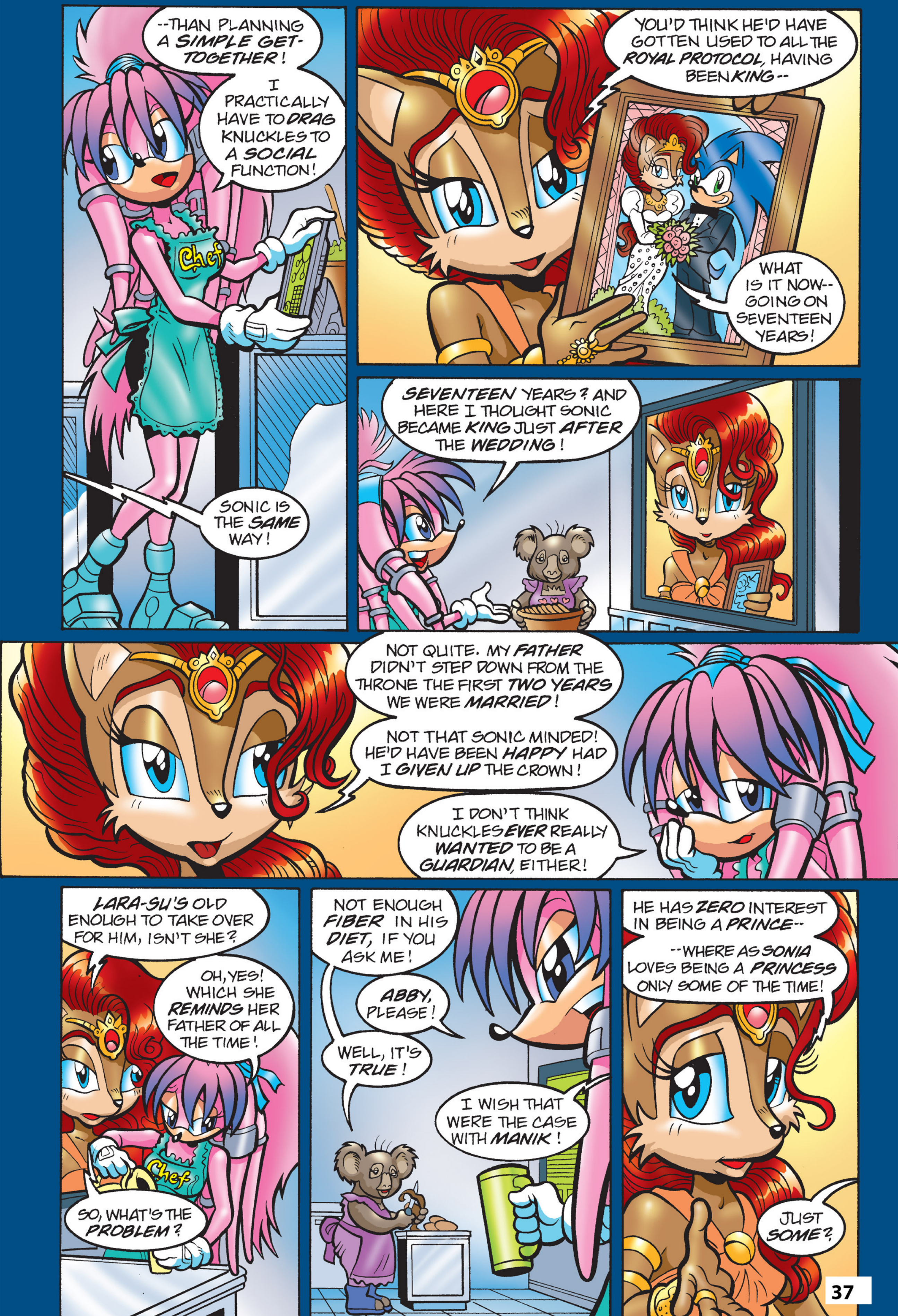
BONUS PIN-UP

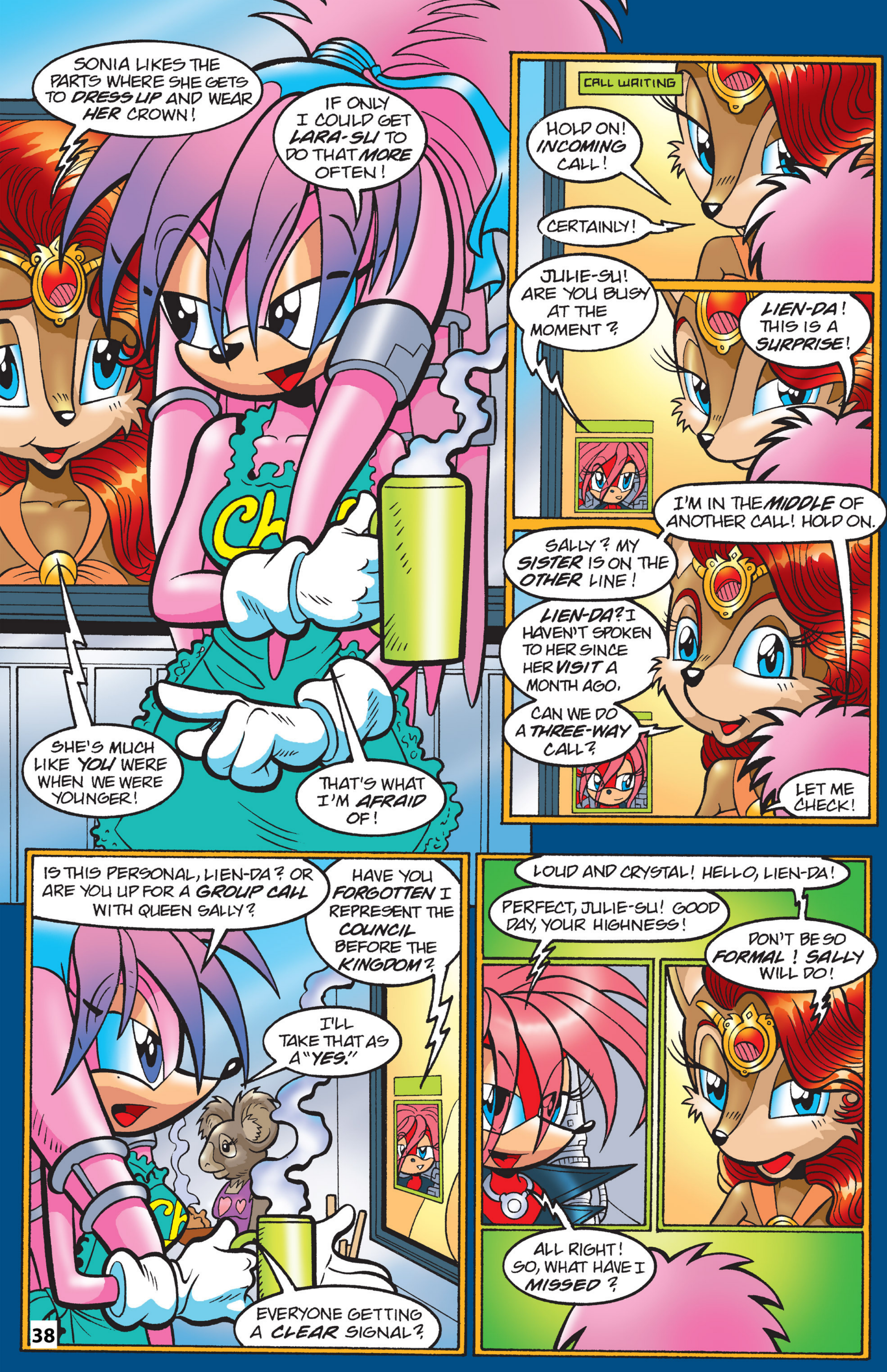
Tracy Yardley!
Hunzeker

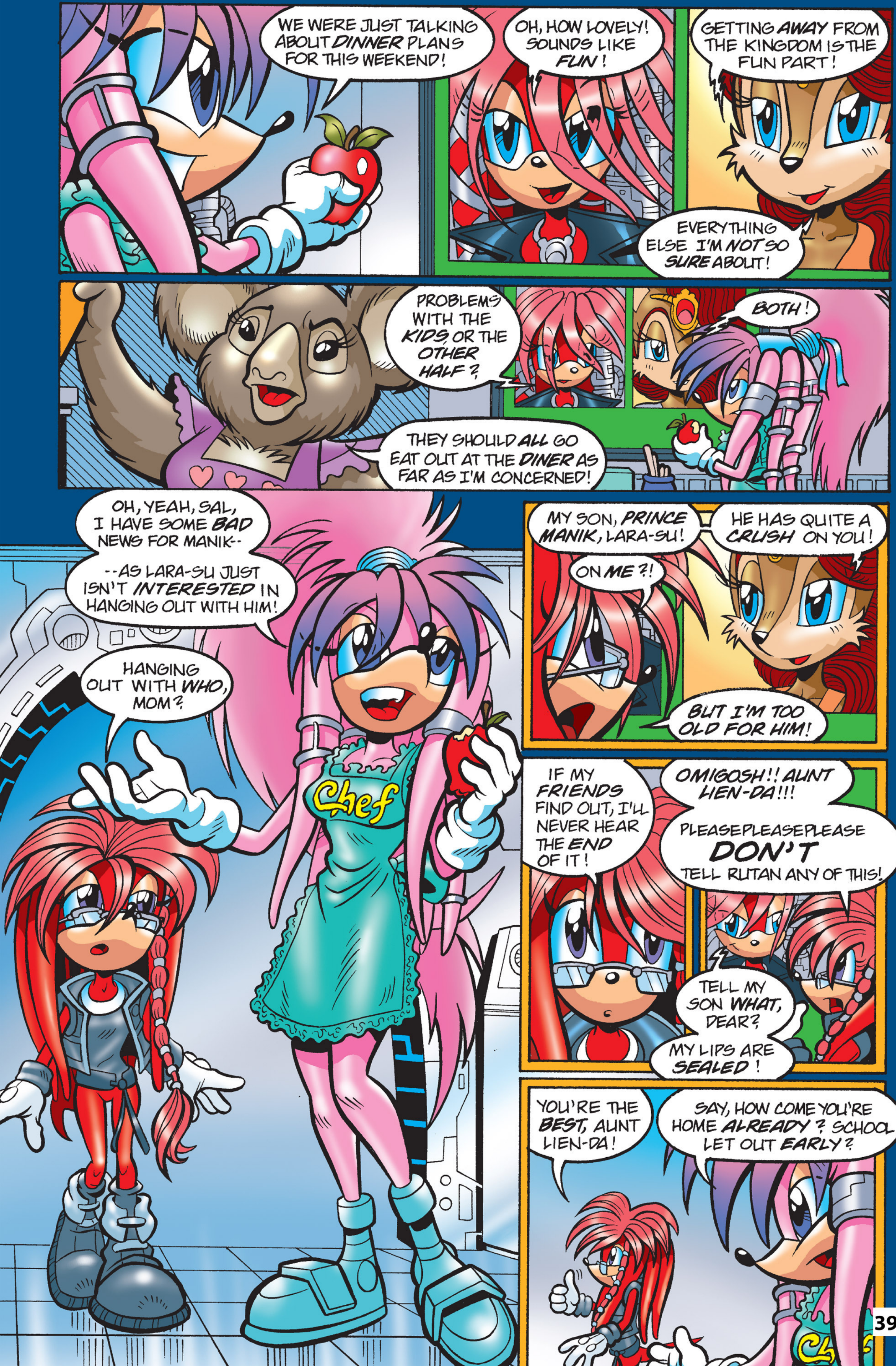
MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER

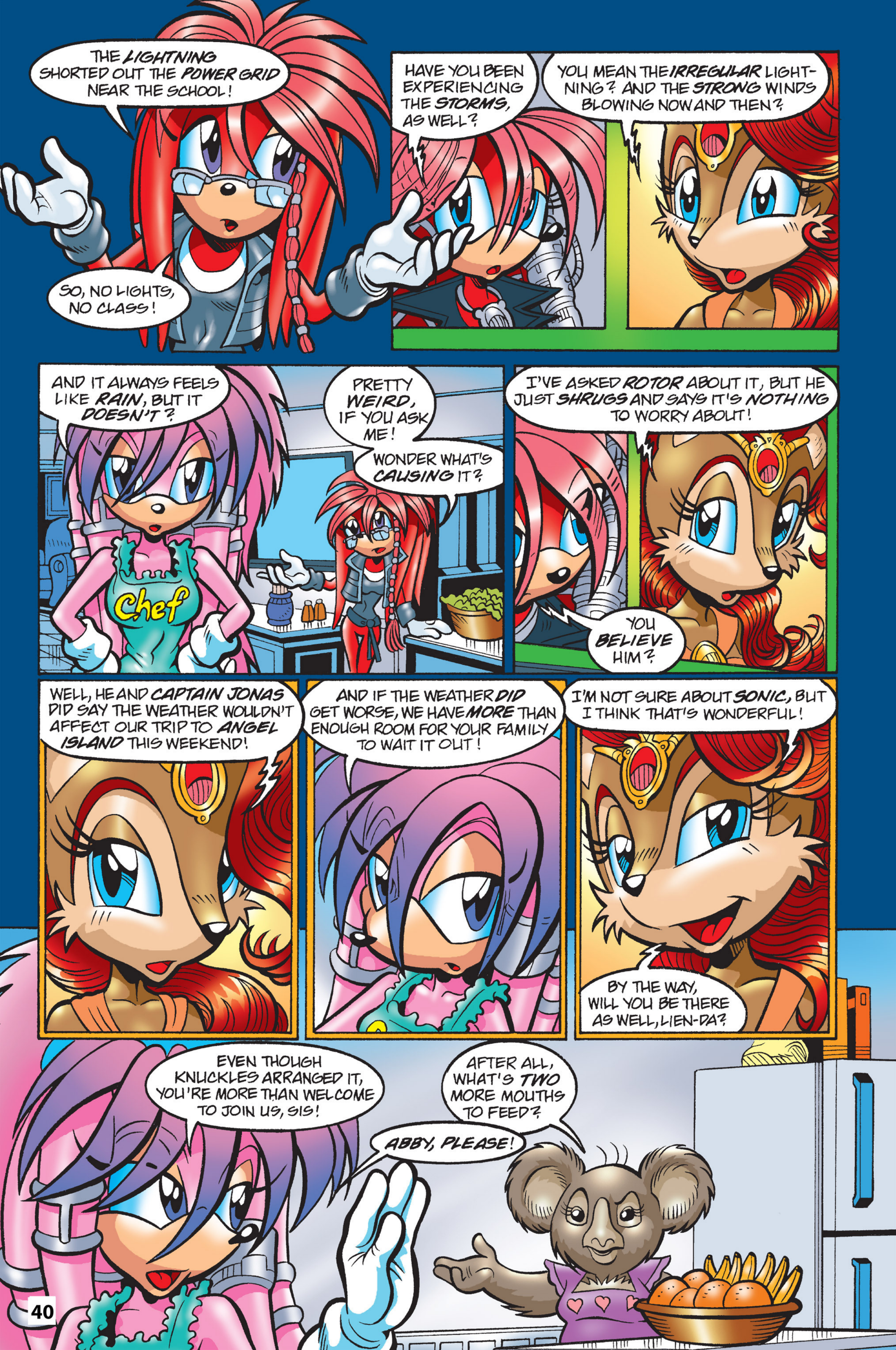
WRITER: **KEN PENDERS** PENCILER: **STEVEN BUTLER** INKER: **JIM AMASH**
COLORIST: **JASON JENSEN** LETTERER: **VICKIE WILLIAMS**

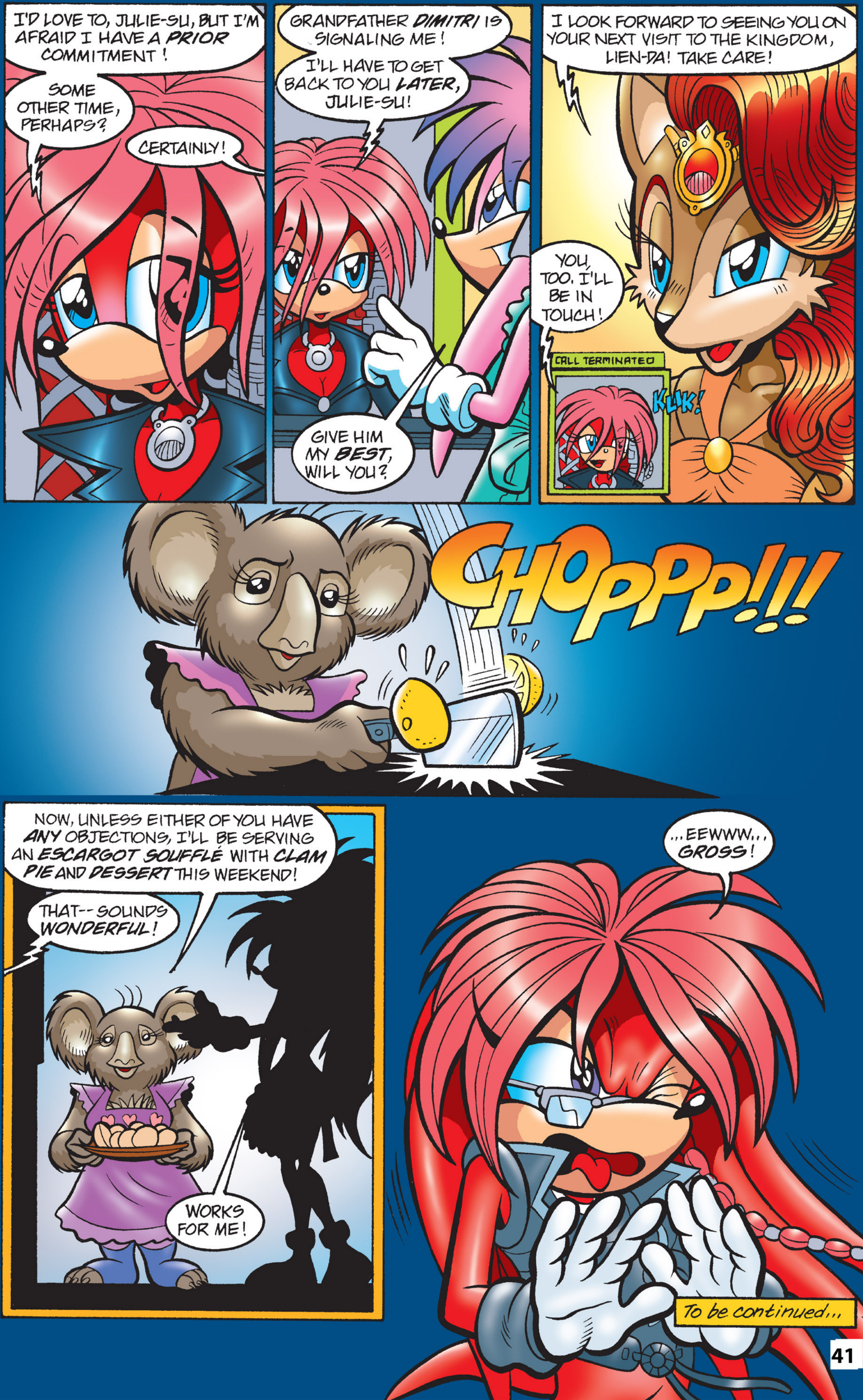

WE HAVE A *PROBLEM*, JULIE-SU!
I'LL SAY!
GIRL TALK
ABBY'S BEEN *SCREAMING* OVER *DINNER* PREPARATIONS FOR THIS *WEEKEND*!
HIS MAJESTY DOESN'T LIKE *TOFFETTI*, WHILE THE *GUARDIAN* DESPISES ANYTHING *HOT AND SPICY*!
AS FOR THE *CHILDREN*--
--I *DON'T* EVEN WANT TO *THINK* ABOUT THAT!
... SIGH ...
WE DON'T NEED TO GO INTO CHAPTER AND VERSE ON HOW *FINICKY* LARA-SU IS ABOUT *HER* DIET, ABBY!
TELL ME ABOUT IT!
MANIK *HATES* JUST ABOUT *ANYTHING* HE'S GIVEN!
HE'S SUCH A *PAIN* THAT ROSIE AND I ARE READY TO *THROTTLE* HIM!
OVERTHROWING ROBOTNIK WAS FAR *EASIER*--
Chef


--THAN PLANNING A *SIMPLE GET-TOGETHER*!
I PRACTICALLY HAVE TO *DRAG* KNUCKLES TO A *SOCIAL* FUNCTION!
SONIC IS THE *SAME* WAY!
YOU'D THINK HE'D HAVE GOTTEN USED TO ALL THE *ROYAL PROTOCOL*, HAVING BEEN *KING*--
WHAT IS IT NOW--GOING ON SEVENTEEN YEARS!
SEVENTEEN YEARS? AND HERE I THOUGHT SONIC BECAME *KING* JUST *AFTER* THE *WEDDING*!
NOT QUITE. MY *FATHER* DIDN'T STEP DOWN FROM THE THRONE THE FIRST *TWO YEARS* WE WERE *MARRIED*!
NOT THAT SONIC MINDED! HE'D HAVE BEEN *HAPPY* HAD I *GIVEN UP* THE CROWN!
I DON'T THINK KNUCKLES *EVER* REALLY *WANTED* TO BE A *GUARDIAN*, EITHER!
LARA-SU'S OLD ENOUGH TO TAKE OVER FOR HIM, ISN'T SHE?
OH, YES! WHICH SHE *REMINDS* HER FATHER OF ALL THE TIME!
SO, WHAT'S THE *PROBLEM*?
NOT ENOUGH *FIBER* IN HIS *DIET*, IF YOU ASK ME!
ABBY, PLEASE!
WELL, IT'S *TRUE*!
I WISH THAT WERE THE CASE WITH *MANIK*!
HE HAS *ZERO* INTEREST IN BEING A *PRINCE*--
--WHERE AS *SONIA* LOVES BEING A *PRINCESS* ONLY SOME OF THE TIME!
JUST *SOME*?
Chef


SONIA LIKES THE PARTS WHERE SHE GETS TO **DRESS UP** AND WEAR **HER** CROWN!
IF ONLY I COULD GET **LARA-SU** TO DO THAT **MORE** OFTEN!
SHE'S MUCH LIKE **YOU** WERE WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER!
THAT'S WHAT I'M **AFRAID** OF!
CALL WAITING
HOLD ON! **INCOMING** CALL!
CERTAINLY!
JULIE-SU! ARE YOU BUSY AT THE MOMENT?
LIEN-DA! THIS IS A **SURPRISE**!
I'M IN THE **MIDDLE** OF ANOTHER CALL! HOLD ON.
SALLY? MY **SISTER** IS ON THE **OTHER** LINE!
LIEN-DA? I HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO HER SINCE HER **VISIT** A MONTH AGO.
CAN WE DO A **THREE-WAY** CALL?
LET ME CHECK!
IS THIS PERSONAL, LIEN-DA? OR ARE YOU UP FOR A **GROUP CALL** WITH QUEEN SALLY?
HAVE YOU **FORGOTTEN** I REPRESENT THE **COUNCIL** BEFORE THE **KINGDOM**?
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A "**YES.**"
EVERYONE GETTING A **CLEAR** SIGNAL?
LOUD AND CRYSTAL! HELLO, LIEN-DA!
PERFECT, JULIE-SU! GOOD DAY, YOUR HIGHNESS!
DON'T BE SO **FORMAL**! **SALLY** WILL DO!
ALL RIGHT! SO, WHAT HAVE I **MISSED**?


WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT *DINNER* PLANS FOR THIS WEEKEND!
OH, HOW LOVELY! SOUNDS LIKE *FUN*!
GETTING *AWAY* FROM THE KINGDOM IS THE FUN PART!
EVERYTHING ELSE I'M *NOT* SO *SURE* ABOUT!
PROBLEMS WITH THE *KIDS*, OR THE *OTHER HALF*?
BOTH!
THEY SHOULD *ALL* GO EAT OUT AT THE *DINER* AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED!
OH, YEAH, SAL, I HAVE SOME *BAD* NEWS FOR MANIK--
--AS LARA-SU JUST ISN'T *INTERESTED* IN HANGING OUT WITH HIM!
HANGING OUT WITH *WHO*, MOM?
MY SON, *PRINCE MANIK*, LARA-SU!
HE HAS QUITE A *CRUSH* ON YOU!
ON *ME*?!
BUT I'M TOO OLD FOR HIM!
IF MY *FRIENDS* FIND OUT, I'LL NEVER HEAR THE *END* OF IT!
OMIGOSH!! AUNT LIEN-DA!!!
PLEASEPLEASEPLEASE *DON'T* TELL RUTAN ANY OF THIS!
TELL MY SON *WHAT*, DEAR?
MY LIPS ARE *SEALED*!
YOU'RE THE *BEST*, AUNT LIEN-DA!
SAY, HOW COME YOU'RE HOME *ALREADY*? SCHOOL LET OUT *EARLY*?
Chef


THE *LIGHTNING* SHORTED OUT THE *POWER GRID* NEAR THE SCHOOL!
SO, NO LIGHTS, NO CLASS!
HAVE YOU BEEN EXPERIENCING THE *STORMS,* AS WELL?
YOU MEAN THE *IRREGULAR* LIGHTNING? AND THE *STRONG* WINDS BLOWING NOW AND THEN?
AND IT ALWAYS FEELS LIKE *RAIN*, BUT IT *DOESN'T*?
PRETTY *WEIRD*, IF YOU ASK ME!
WONDER WHAT'S *CAUSING* IT?
Chef
I'VE ASKED *ROTOR* ABOUT IT, BUT HE JUST *SHRUGS* AND SAYS IT'S *NOTHING* TO WORRY ABOUT!
YOU *BELIEVE* HIM?
WELL, HE AND *CAPTAIN JONAS* DID SAY THE WEATHER WOULDN'T AFFECT OUR TRIP TO *ANGEL ISLAND* THIS WEEKEND!
AND IF THE WEATHER *DID* GET WORSE, WE HAVE *MORE* THAN ENOUGH ROOM FOR YOUR FAMILY TO WAIT IT OUT!
I'M NOT SURE ABOUT *SONIC,* BUT I THINK THAT'S WONDERFUL!
BY THE WAY, WILL YOU BE THERE AS WELL, LIEN-DA?
EVEN THOUGH KNUCKLES ARRANGED IT, YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME TO JOIN US, SIS!
AFTER ALL, WHAT'S *TWO* MORE MOUTHS TO FEED?
ABBY, PLEASE!


I'D LOVE TO, JULIE-SU, BUT I'M AFRAID I HAVE A *PRIOR* COMMITMENT!
SOME OTHER TIME, PERHAPS?
CERTAINLY!
GRANDFATHER *DIMITRI* IS SIGNALING ME!
I'LL HAVE TO GET BACK TO YOU *LATER*, JULIE-SU!
GIVE HIM MY *BEST*, WILL YOU?
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON YOUR NEXT VISIT TO THE KINGDOM, LIEN-DA! TAKE CARE!
YOU, TOO. I'LL BE IN TOUCH!
CALL TERMINATED
KLIK!
CHOPPP!!!
NOW, UNLESS EITHER OF YOU HAVE *ANY* OBJECTIONS, I'LL BE SERVING AN *ESCARGOT SOUFFLÉ* WITH *CLAM PIE* AND *DESSERT* THIS WEEKEND!
THAT--SOUNDS *WONDERFUL*!
WORKS FOR ME!
...EEWWW... *GROSS*!
To be continued...

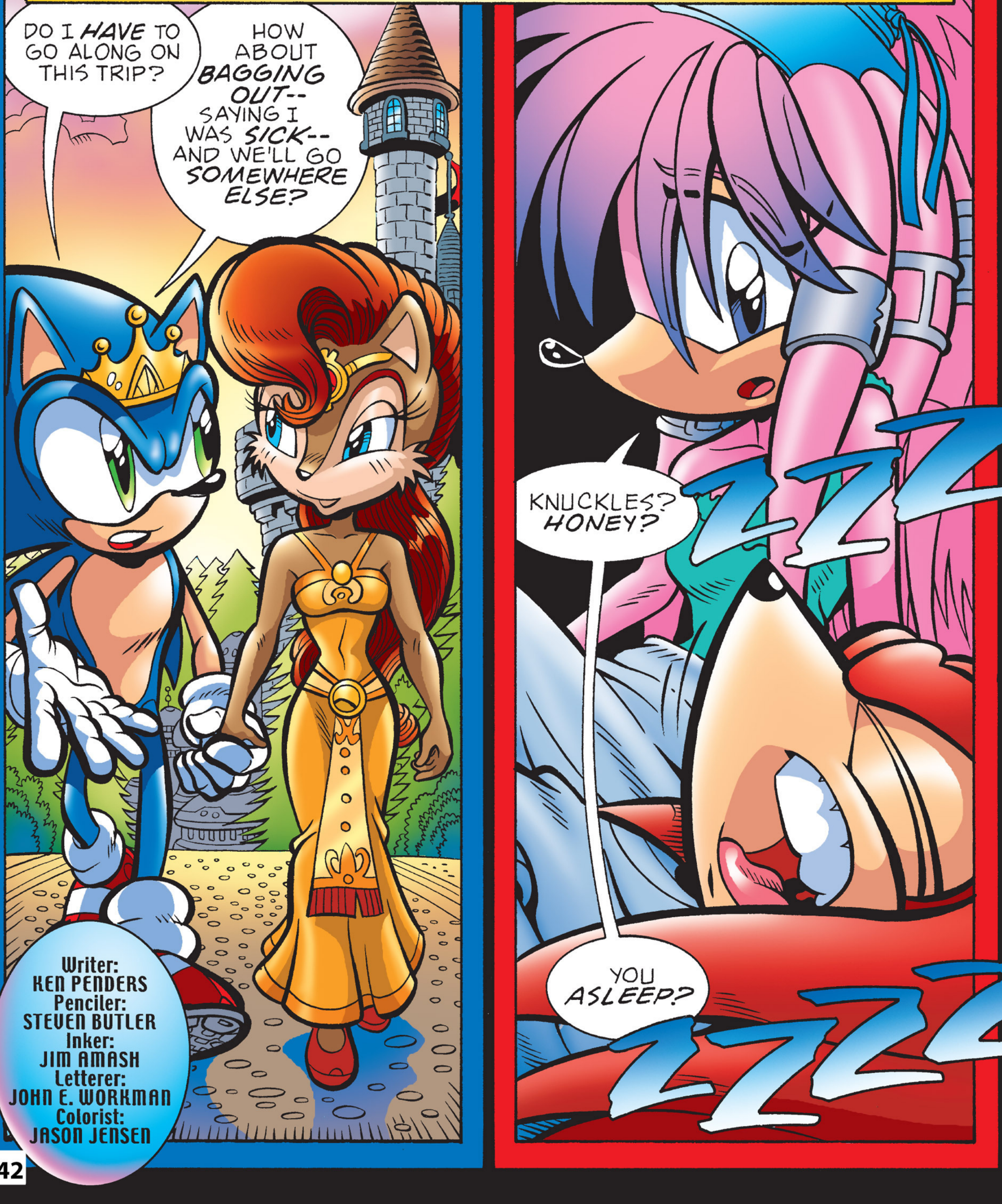
MOBIUS

25 YEARS LATER

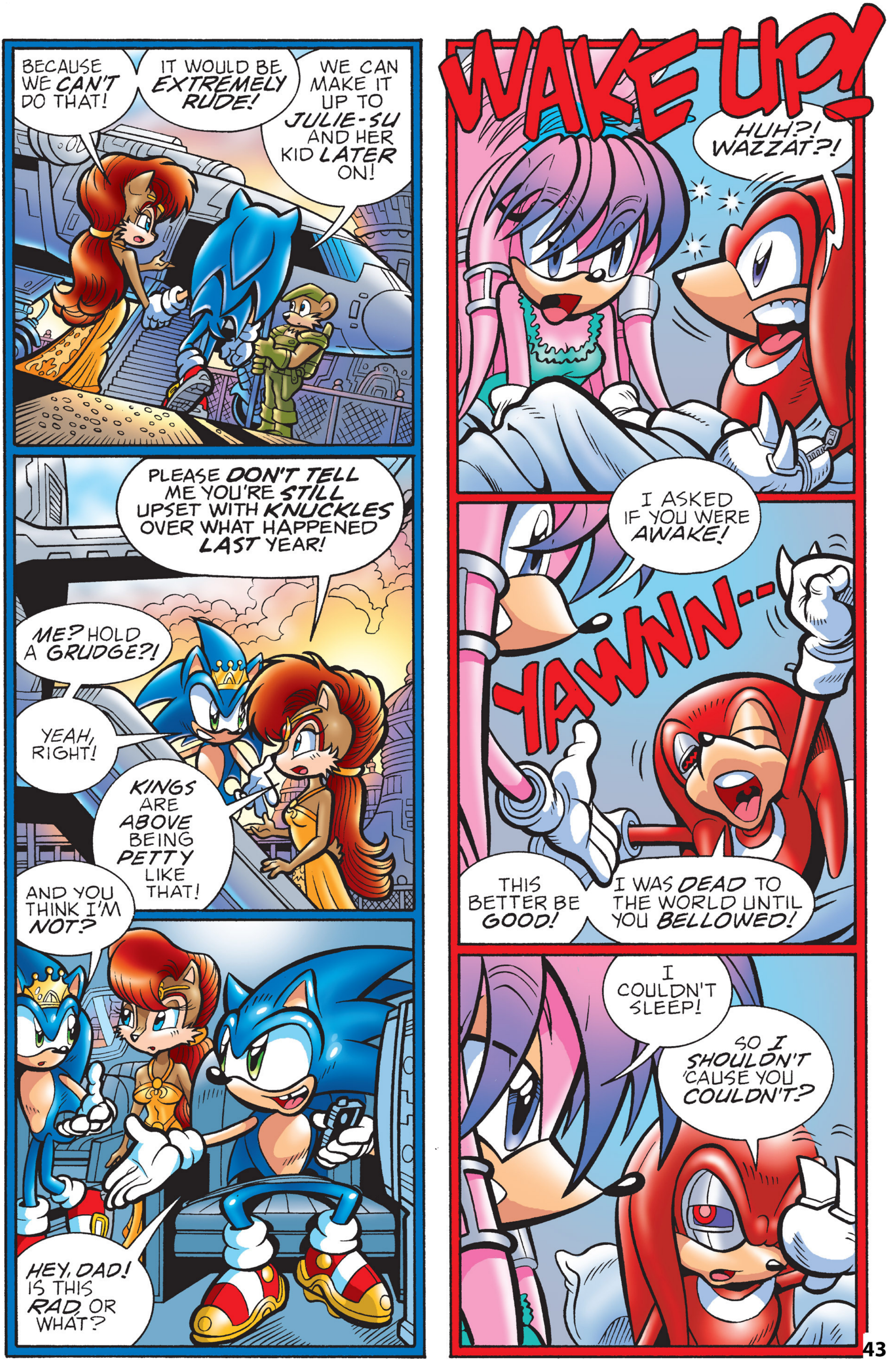
THE STORY SO FAR: *UNUSUAL WEATHER PATTERNS HAVE BECOME A CAUSE FOR CONCERN, PROMPTING THE EMISSARY ROTOR TO BRING THE* ***KING OF ACORN*** *AND THE* ***GUARDIAN OF ANGEL ISLAND*** *TOGETHER TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.*

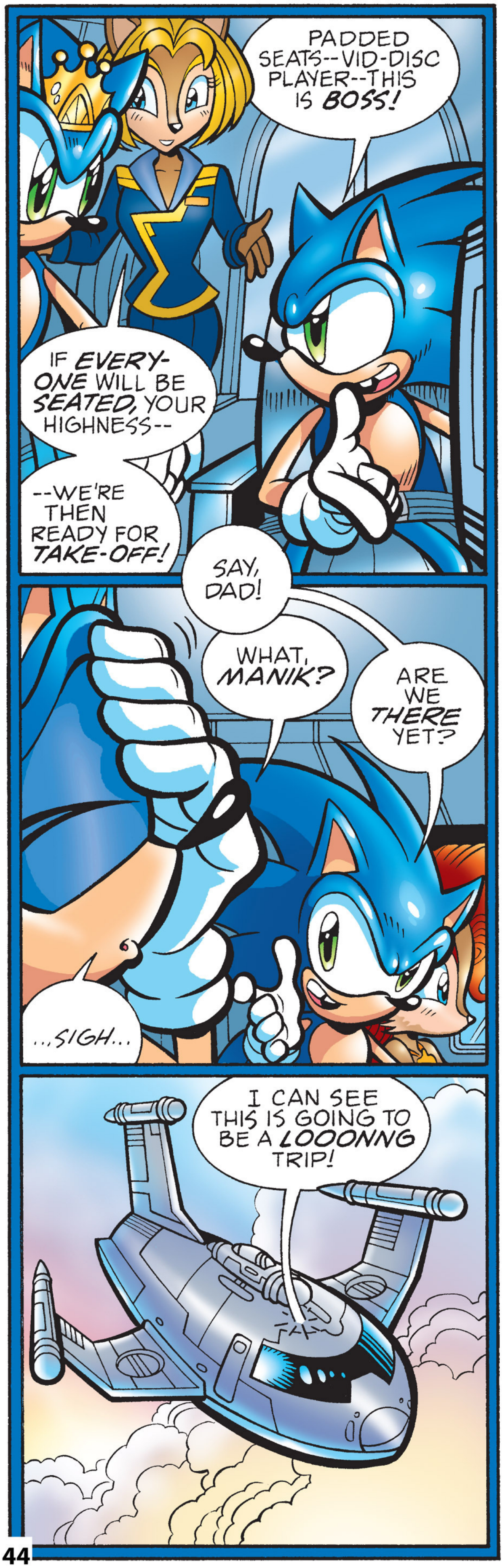
UNDER ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES, A ***REASONABLE*** *COURSE OF ACTION TO SAY THE LEAST, BUT WHEN IT INVOLVES TWO* ***HEADS OF STATE*** *WHO HAVEN'T EXACTLY SEEN EYE-TO-EYE SINCE THEY WERE TEENS, YOU HAVE THE BEGINNINGS OF...*

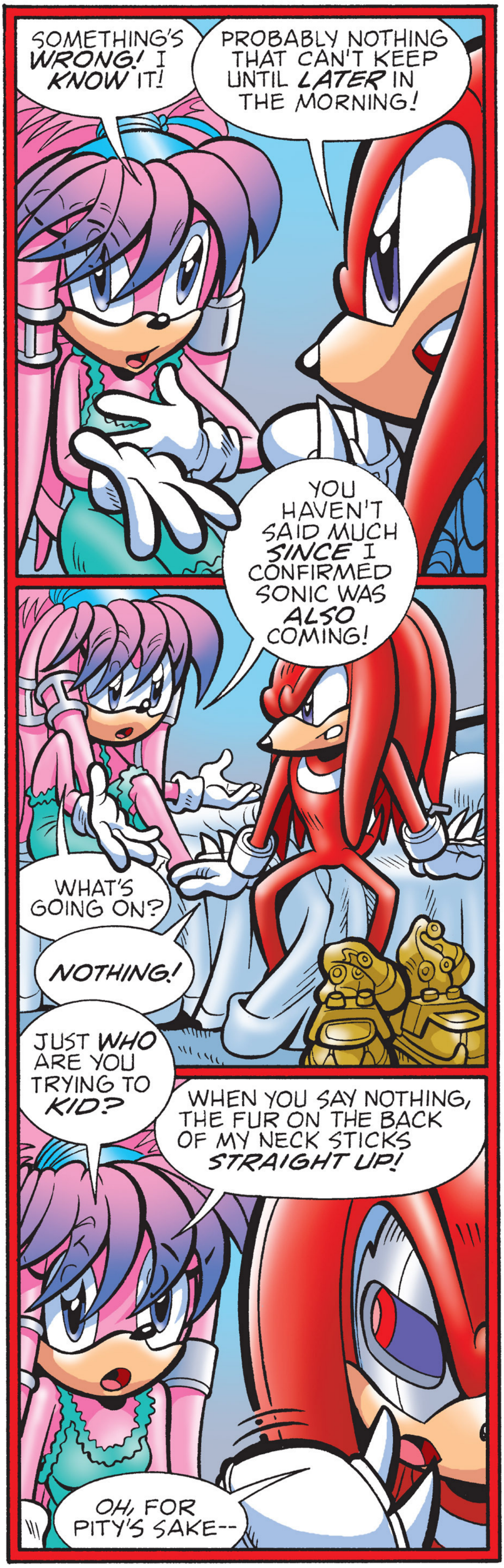
TROUBLE IN PARADISE

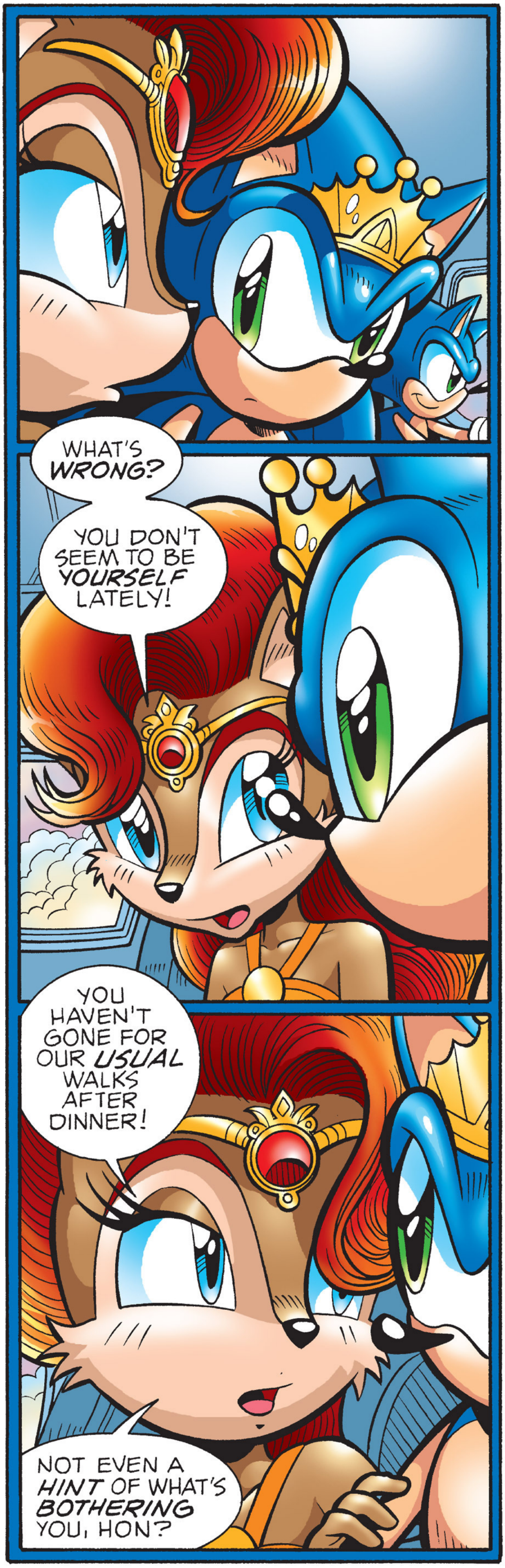

DO I *HAVE* TO GO ALONG ON THIS TRIP?
HOW ABOUT *BAGGING OUT--* SAYING I WAS *SICK--* AND WE'LL GO *SOMEWHERE ELSE?*
KNUCKLES? *HONEY?*
ZZZ
YOU *ASLEEP?*
ZZZZ

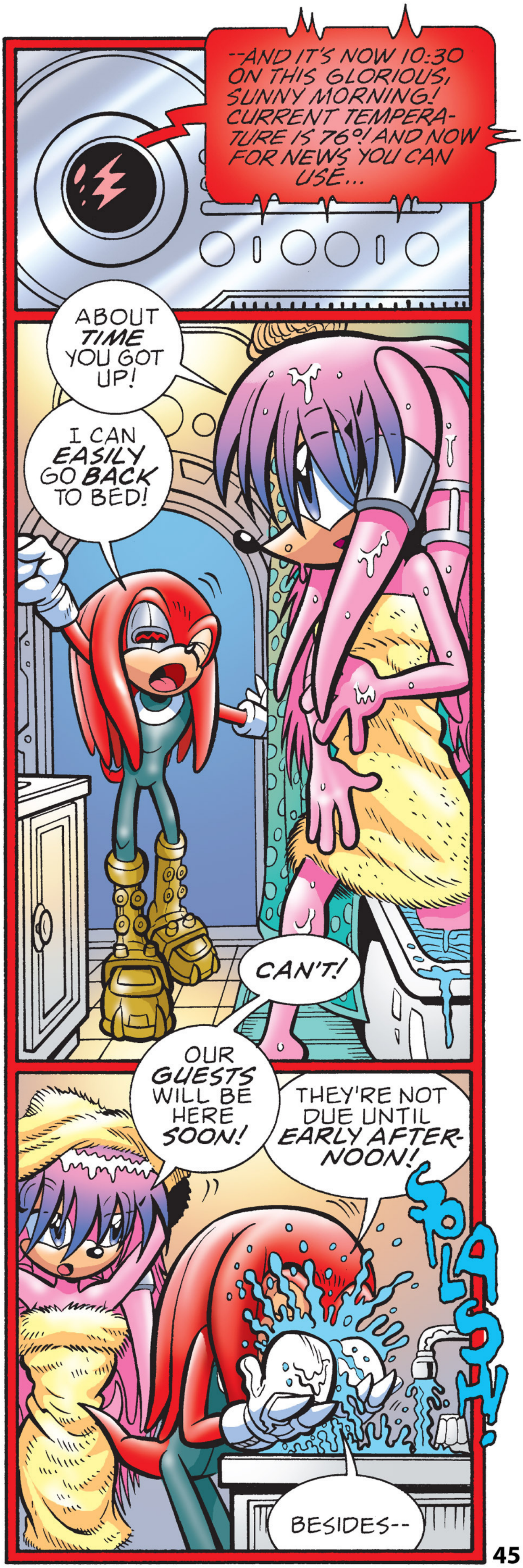
Writer:
KEN PENDERS
Penciler:
STEVEN BUTLER
Inker:
JIM AMASH
Letterer:
JOHN E. WORKMAN
Colorist:
JASON JENSEN

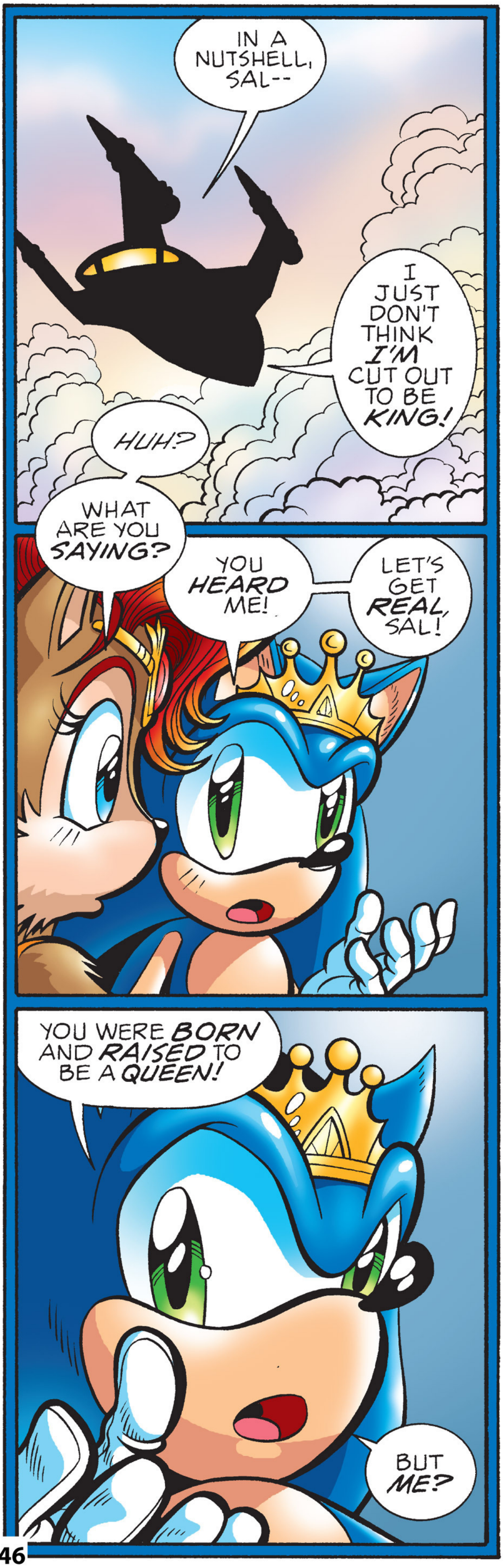

BECAUSE WE CAN'T DO THAT!
IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY RUDE!
WE CAN MAKE IT UP TO JULIE-SU AND HER KID LATER ON!
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE STILL UPSET WITH KNUCKLES OVER WHAT HAPPENED LAST YEAR!
ME? HOLD A GRUDGE?!
YEAH, RIGHT!
KINGS ARE ABOVE BEING PETTY LIKE THAT!
AND YOU THINK I'M NOT?
HEY, DAD! IS THIS RAD, OR WHAT?
WAKE UP!
HUH?! WAZZAT?!
I ASKED IF YOU WERE AWAKE!
YAWNN--
THIS BETTER BE GOOD!
I WAS DEAD TO THE WORLD UNTIL YOU BELLOWED!
I COULDN'T SLEEP!
SO I SHOULDN'T 'CAUSE YOU COULDN'T?

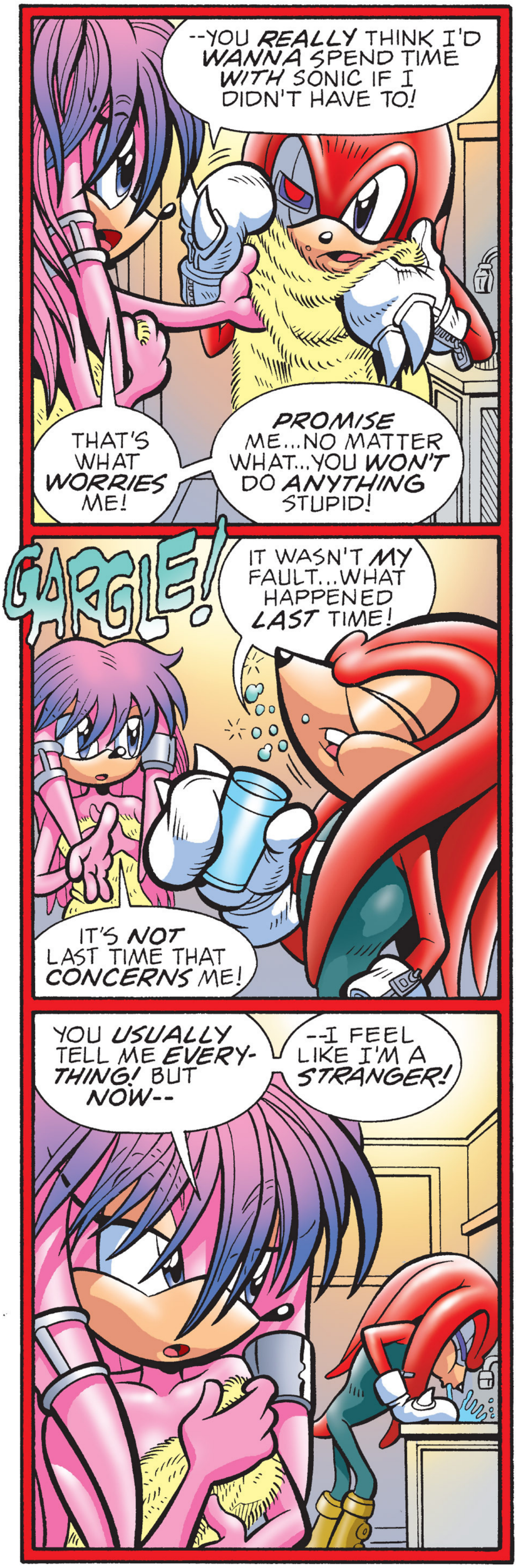

PADDED SEATS--VID-DISC PLAYER--THIS IS *BOSS!*
IF *EVERYONE* WILL BE *SEATED,* YOUR HIGHNESS--
--WE'RE THEN READY FOR *TAKE-OFF!*
SAY, DAD!
WHAT, *MANIK?*
ARE WE *THERE* YET?
...SIGH...
I CAN SEE THIS IS GOING TO BE A *LOOONNG* TRIP!

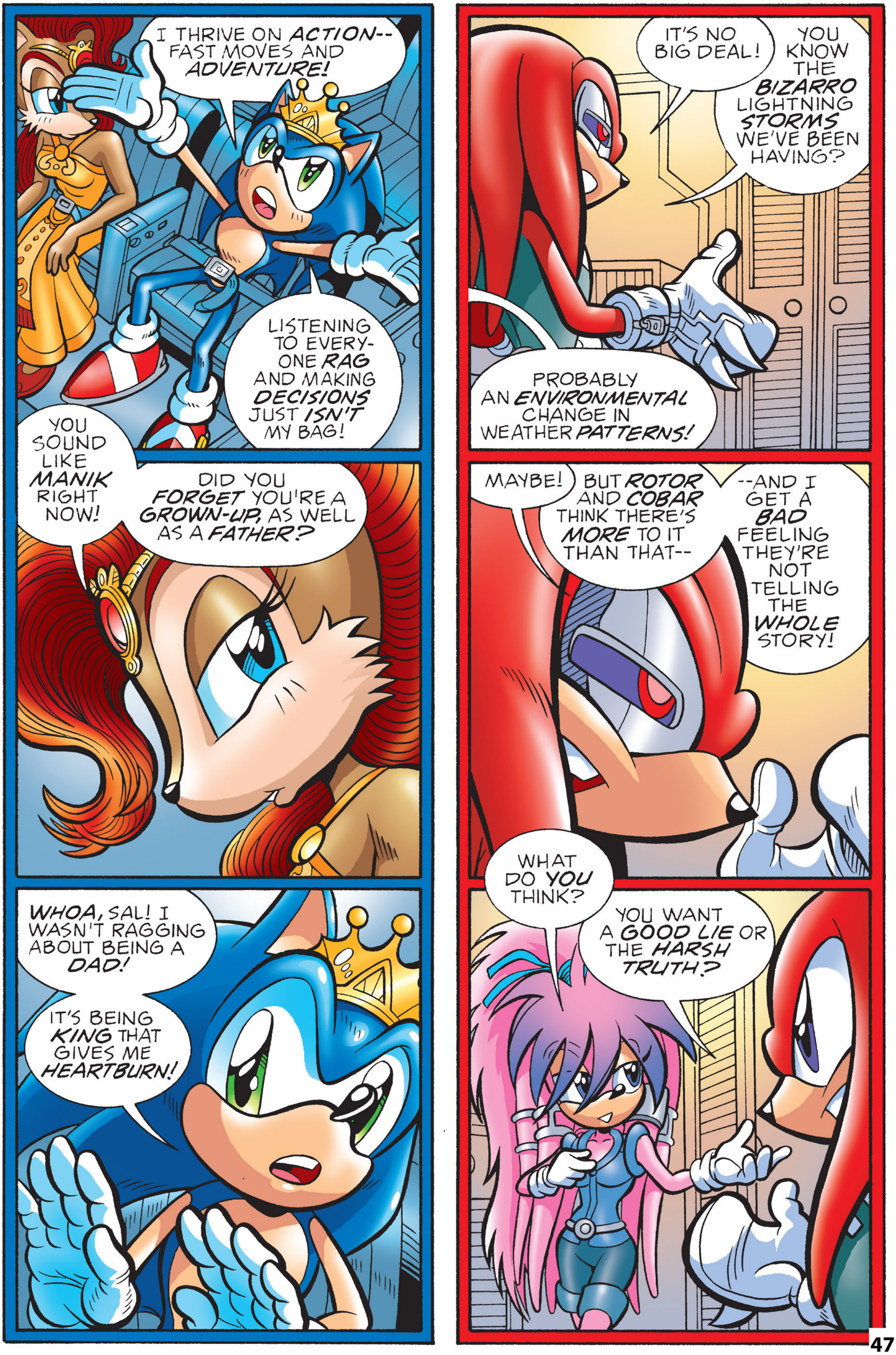

SOMETHING'S *WRONG!* I *KNOW* IT!
PROBABLY NOTHING THAT CAN'T KEEP UNTIL *LATER* IN THE MORNING!
YOU HAVEN'T SAID MUCH *SINCE* I CONFIRMED SONIC WAS *ALSO* COMING!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOTHING!
JUST *WHO* ARE YOU TRYING TO *KID?*
WHEN YOU SAY NOTHING, THE FUR ON THE BACK OF MY NECK STICKS *STRAIGHT UP!*
OH, FOR PITY'S SAKE--

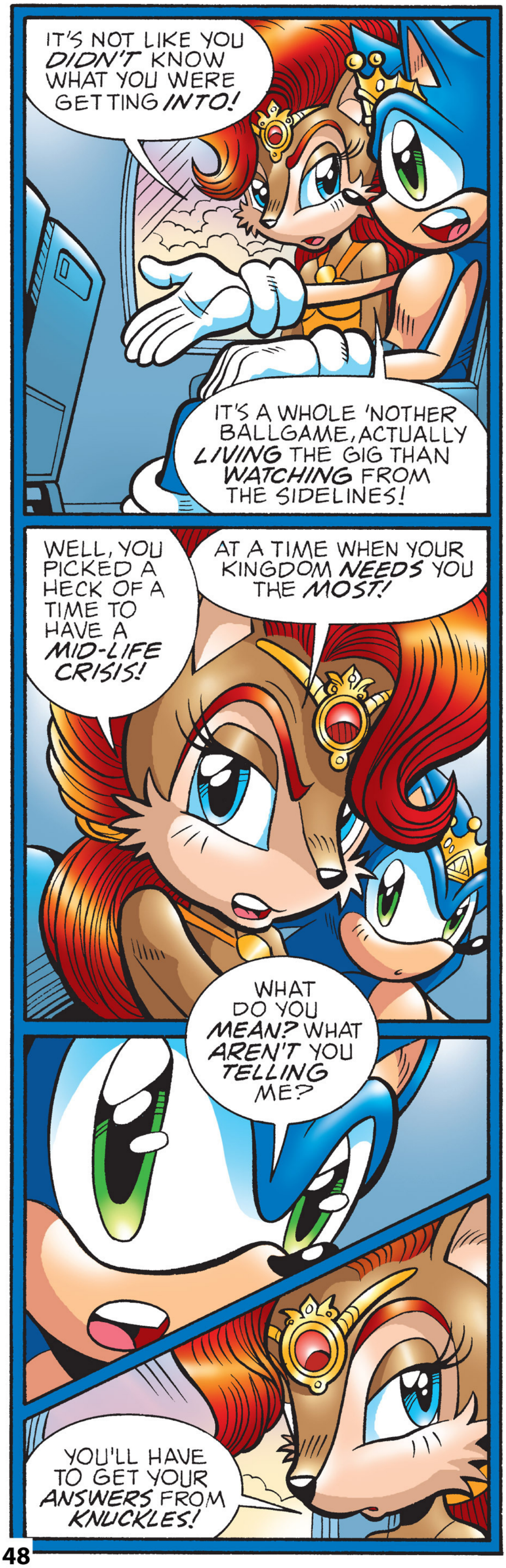

WHAT'S *WRONG?*
YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE *YOURSELF* LATELY!
YOU HAVEN'T GONE FOR OUR *USUAL* WALKS AFTER DINNER!
NOT EVEN A *HINT* OF WHAT'S *BOTHERING* YOU, HON?

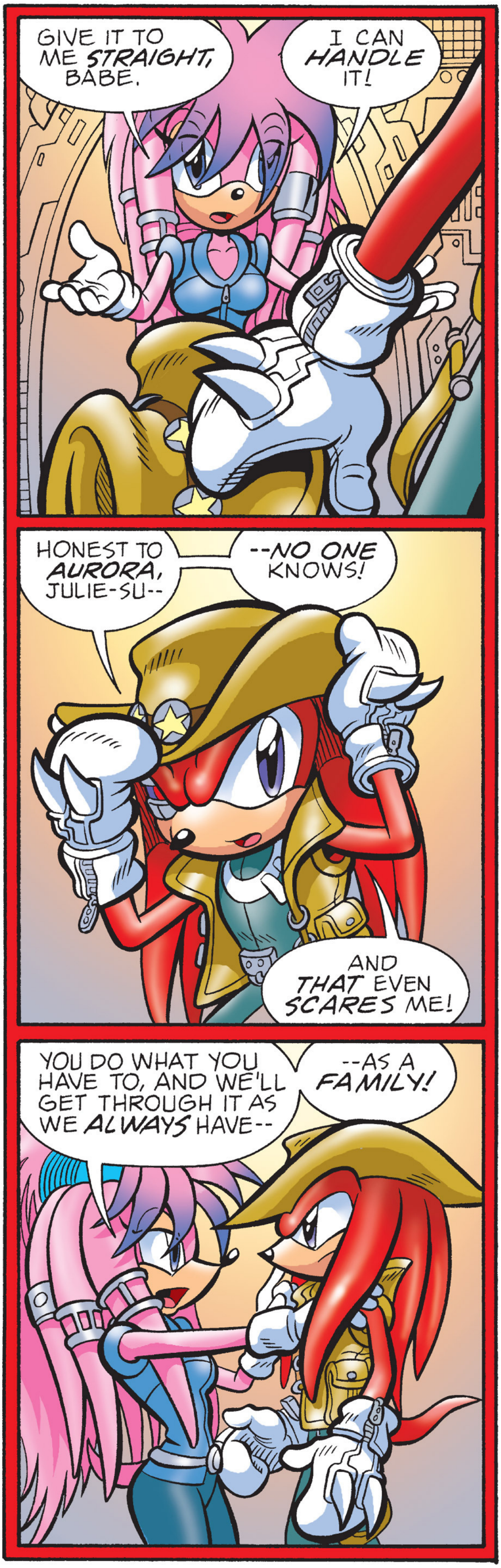

--AND IT'S NOW 10:30 ON THIS GLORIOUS, SUNNY MORNING! CURRENT TEMPERATURE IS 76°! AND NOW FOR NEWS YOU CAN USE...
ABOUT *TIME* YOU GOT UP!
I CAN *EASILY* GO *BACK* TO BED!
CAN'T!
OUR *GUESTS* WILL BE HERE *SOON!*
THEY'RE NOT DUE UNTIL *EARLY AFTERNOON!*
SPLASH!
BESIDES--

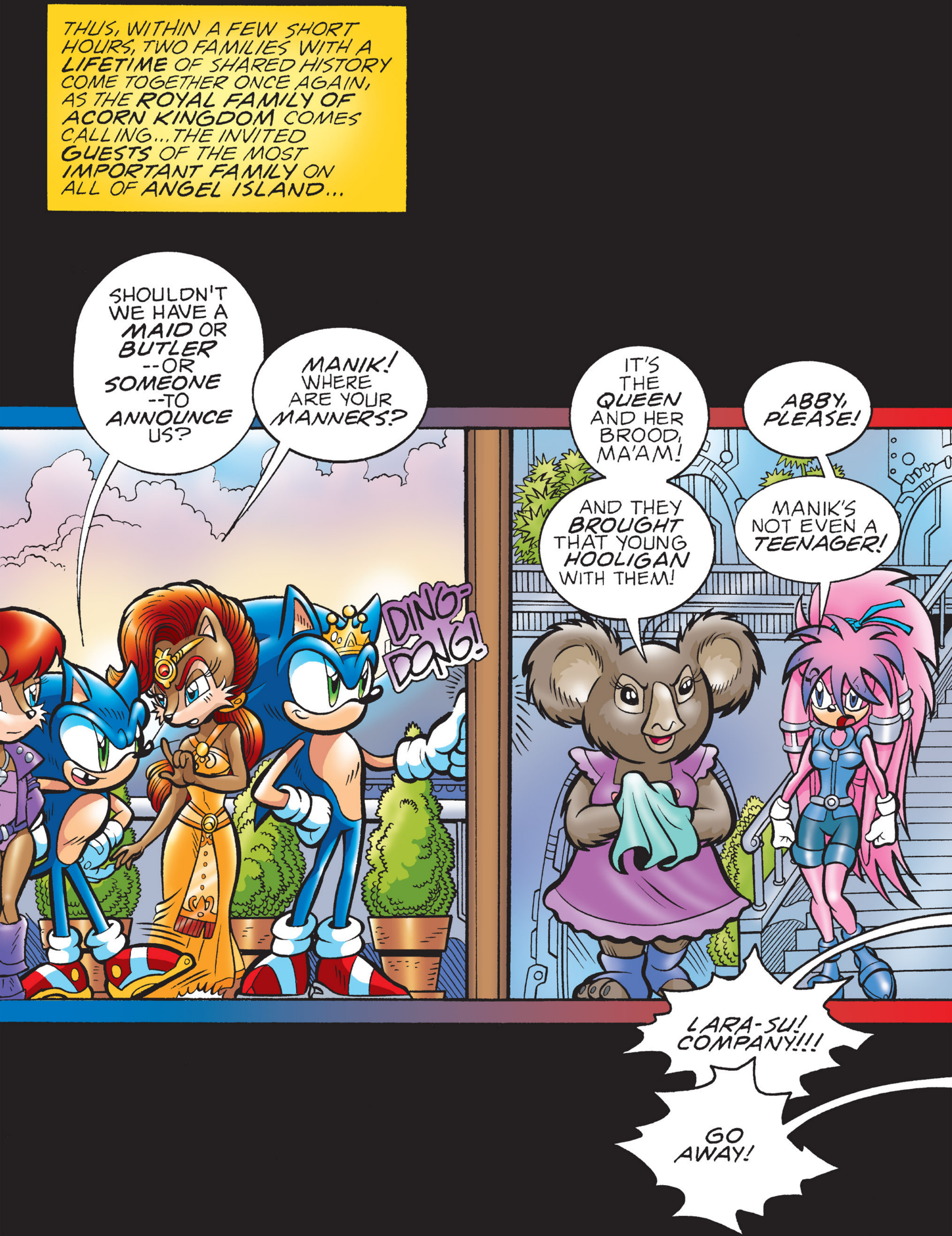

IN A NUTSHELL, SAL--
I JUST DON'T THINK *I'M* CUT OUT TO BE *KING!*
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU *SAYING?*
YOU *HEARD* ME!
LET'S GET *REAL,* SAL!
YOU WERE *BORN* AND *RAISED* TO BE A *QUEEN!*
BUT *ME?*

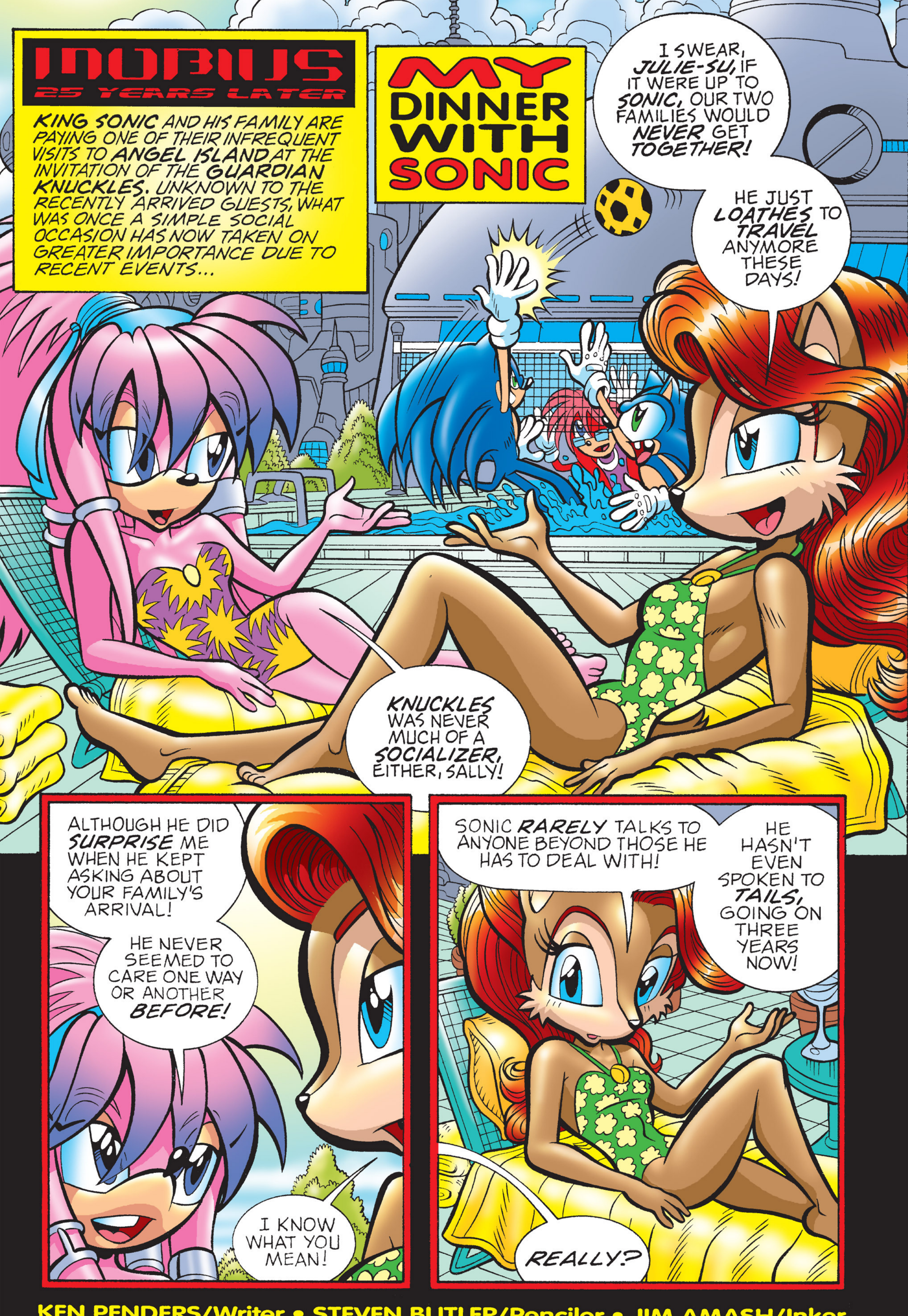

--YOU *REALLY* THINK I'D *WANNA* SPEND TIME *WITH* SONIC IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO!
THAT'S WHAT *WORRIES* ME!
PROMISE ME...NO MATTER WHAT...YOU *WON'T* DO *ANYTHING* STUPID!
GARGLE!
IT WASN'T *MY* FAULT...WHAT HAPPENED *LAST* TIME!
IT'S *NOT* LAST TIME THAT *CONCERNS* ME!
YOU *USUALLY* TELL ME *EVERYTHING!* BUT *NOW*--
--I FEEL LIKE I'M A *STRANGER!*


I THRIVE ON *ACTION*--FAST MOVES AND *ADVENTURE!*
LISTENING TO EVERYONE *RAG* AND MAKING *DECISIONS* JUST *ISN'T* MY BAG!
YOU SOUND LIKE *MANIK* RIGHT NOW!
DID YOU *FORGET* YOU'RE A *GROWN-UP,* AS WELL AS A *FATHER?*
WHOA, SAL! I WASN'T RAGGING ABOUT BEING A *DAD!*
IT'S BEING *KING* THAT GIVES ME *HEARTBURN!*
IT'S NO BIG DEAL!
YOU KNOW THE *BIZARRO* LIGHTNING *STORMS* WE'VE BEEN HAVING?
PROBABLY AN *ENVIRONMENTAL* CHANGE IN WEATHER *PATTERNS!*
MAYBE!
BUT *ROTOR* AND *COBAR* THINK THERE'S *MORE* TO IT THAN THAT--
--AND I GET A *BAD* FEELING THEY'RE NOT TELLING THE *WHOLE* STORY!
WHAT DO *YOU* THINK?
YOU WANT A *GOOD LIE* OR THE *HARSH TRUTH?*

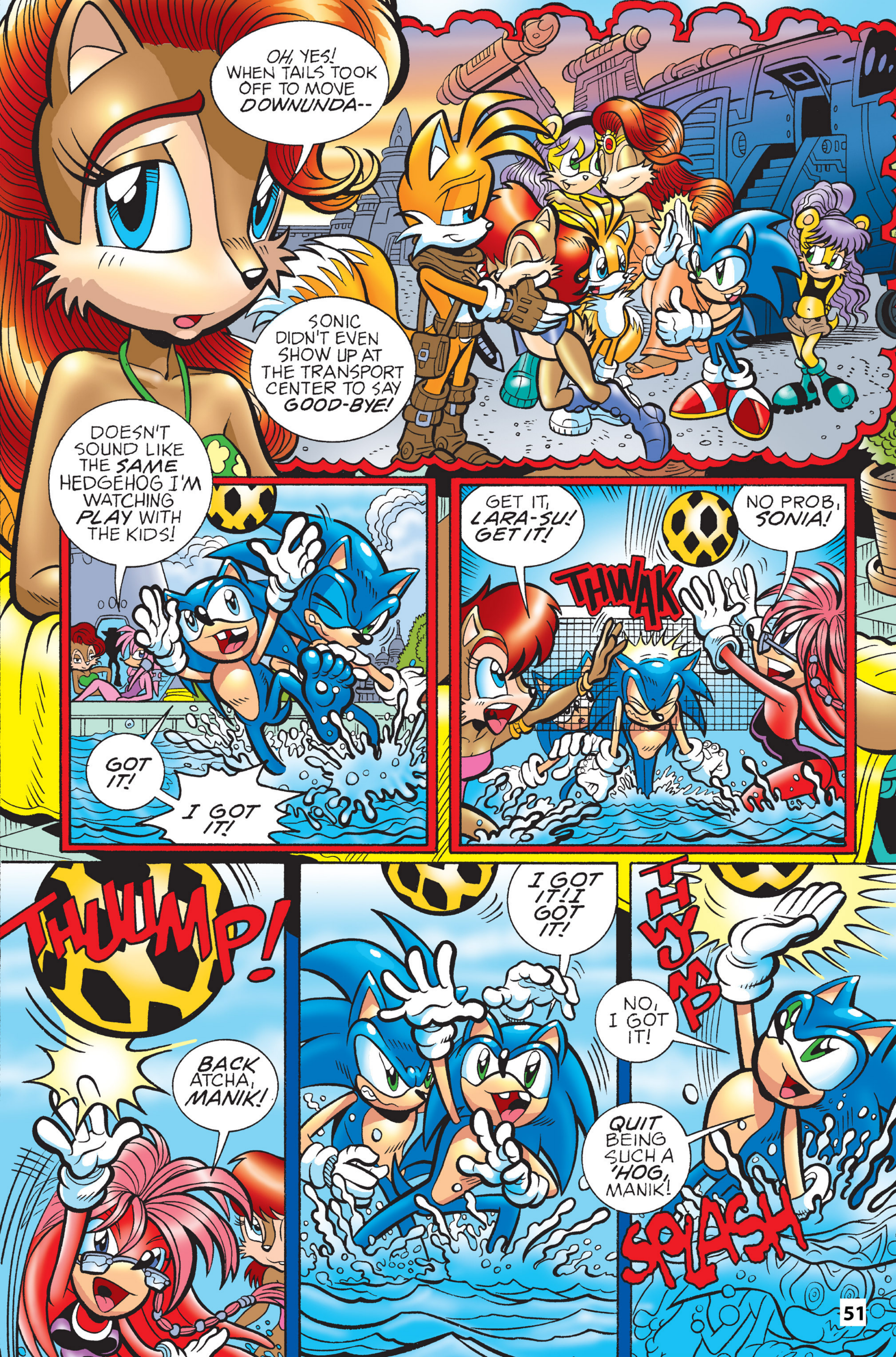

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU *DIDN'T* KNOW WHAT YOU WERE GETTING *INTO!*
IT'S A WHOLE 'NOTHER BALLGAME, ACTUALLY *LIVING* THE GIG THAN *WATCHING* FROM THE SIDELINES!
WELL, YOU PICKED A HECK OF A TIME TO HAVE A *MID-LIFE CRISIS!*
AT A TIME WHEN YOUR KINGDOM *NEEDS* YOU THE *MOST!*
WHAT DO YOU *MEAN?* WHAT *AREN'T* YOU *TELLING* ME?
YOU'LL HAVE TO GET YOUR *ANSWERS* FROM *KNUCKLES!*

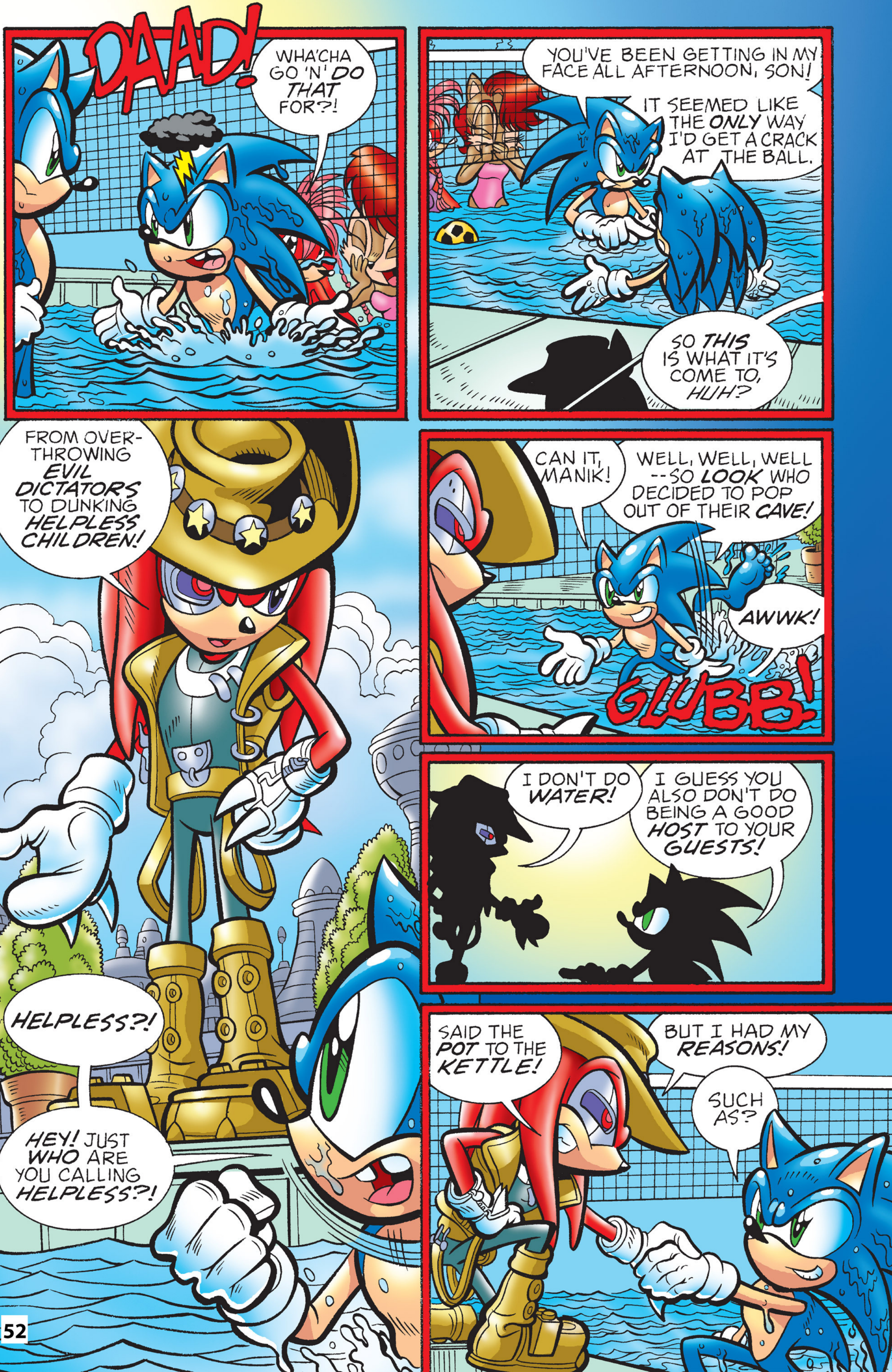

GIVE IT TO ME *STRAIGHT,* BABE.
I CAN *HANDLE* IT!
HONEST TO *AURORA,* JULIE-SU--
--*NO ONE* KNOWS!
AND *THAT* EVEN *SCARES* ME!
YOU DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO, AND WE'LL GET THROUGH IT AS WE *ALWAYS* HAVE--
--AS A *FAMILY!*

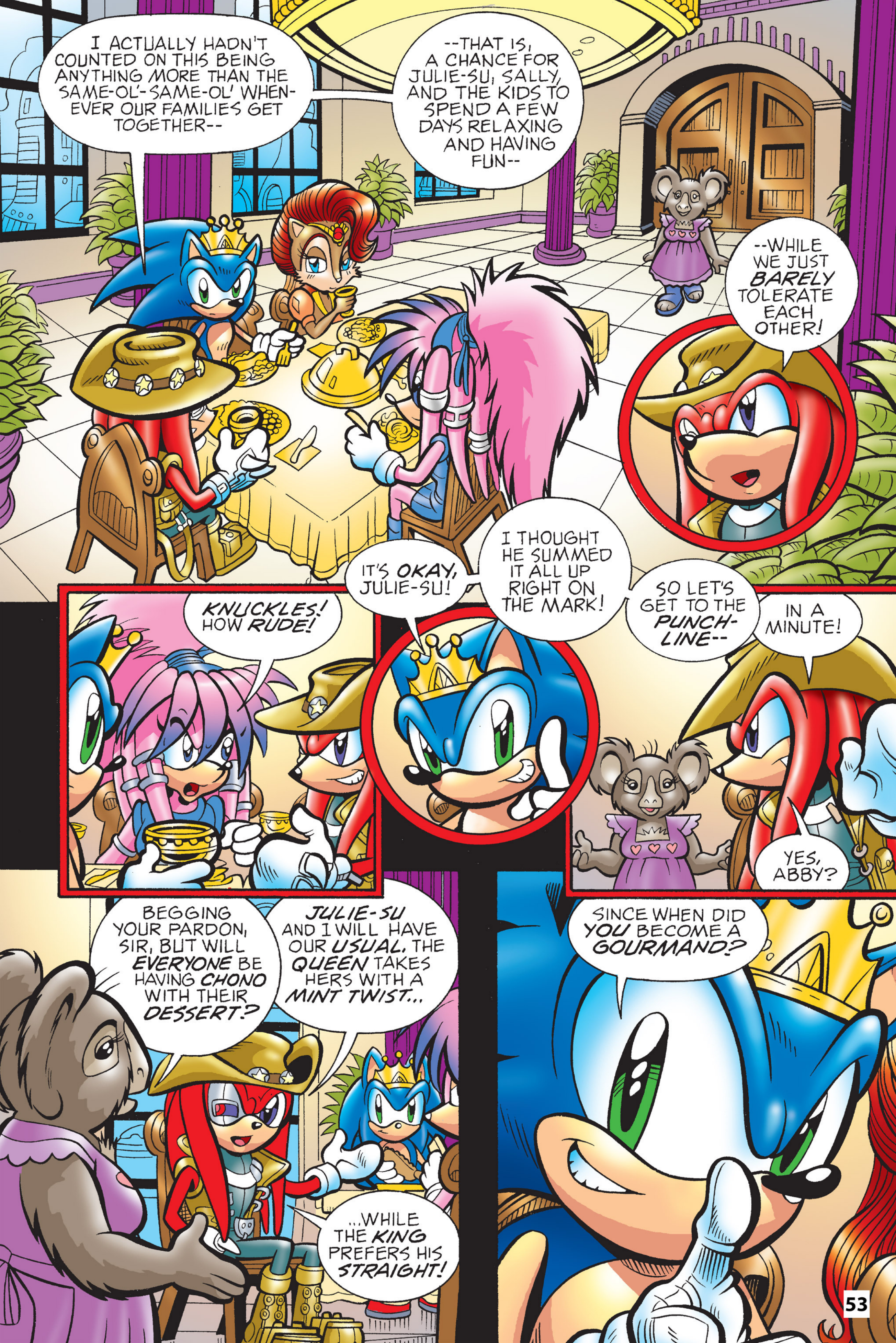

THUS, WITHIN A FEW SHORT HOURS, TWO FAMILIES WITH A *LIFETIME* OF SHARED HISTORY COME TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN, AS THE *ROYAL FAMILY OF ACORN KINGDOM* COMES CALLING... THE INVITED *GUESTS* OF THE MOST *IMPORTANT FAMILY* ON ALL OF *ANGEL ISLAND*...
SHOULDN'T WE HAVE A *MAID* OR *BUTLER* --OR *SOMEONE* --TO *ANNOUNCE* US?
MANIK! WHERE ARE YOUR *MANNERS?*
DING-DONG!
IT'S THE *QUEEN* AND HER BROOD, MA'AM!
AND THEY *BROUGHT* THAT YOUNG *HOOLIGAN* WITH THEM!
ABBY, PLEASE!
MANIK'S NOT EVEN A *TEENAGER!*
LARA-SU! COMPANY!!!
GO AWAY!

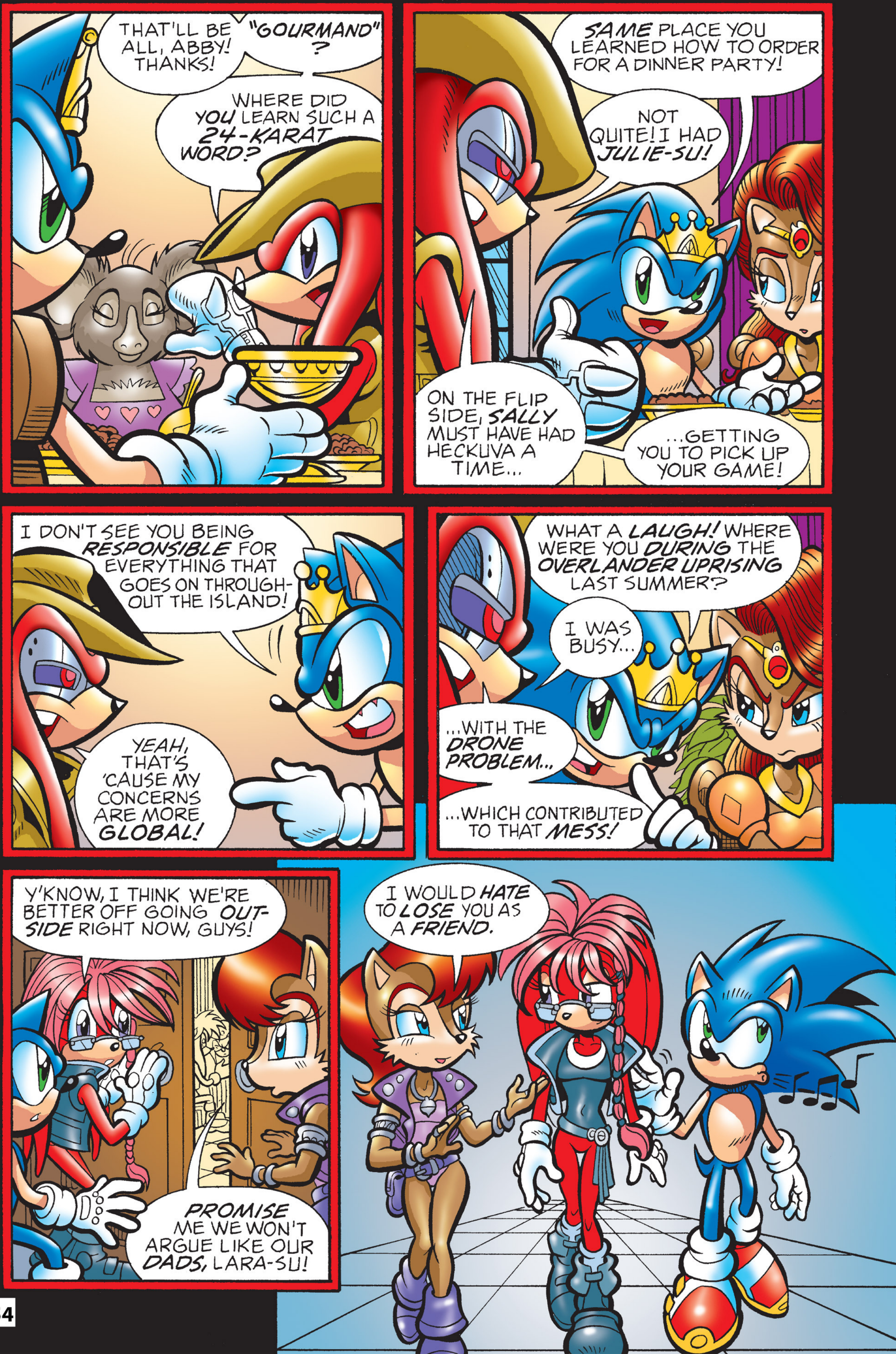

MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER
KING SONIC AND HIS FAMILY ARE PAYING ONE OF THEIR INFREQUENT VISITS TO ANGEL ISLAND AT THE INVITATION OF THE GUARDIAN KNUCKLES. UNKNOWN TO THE RECENTLY ARRIVED GUESTS, WHAT WAS ONCE A SIMPLE SOCIAL OCCASION HAS NOW TAKEN ON GREATER IMPORTANCE DUE TO RECENT EVENTS...
MY DINNER WITH SONIC
I SWEAR, JULIE-SU, IF IT WERE UP TO SONIC, OUR TWO FAMILIES WOULD NEVER GET TOGETHER!
HE JUST LOATHES TO TRAVEL ANYMORE THESE DAYS!
KNUCKLES WAS NEVER MUCH OF A SOCIALIZER, EITHER, SALLY!
ALTHOUGH HE DID SURPRISE ME WHEN HE KEPT ASKING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY'S ARRIVAL!
HE NEVER SEEMED TO CARE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER BEFORE!
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN!
SONIC RARELY TALKS TO ANYONE BEYOND THOSE HE HAS TO DEAL WITH!
HE HASN'T EVEN SPOKEN TO TAILS, GOING ON THREE YEARS NOW!
REALLY?

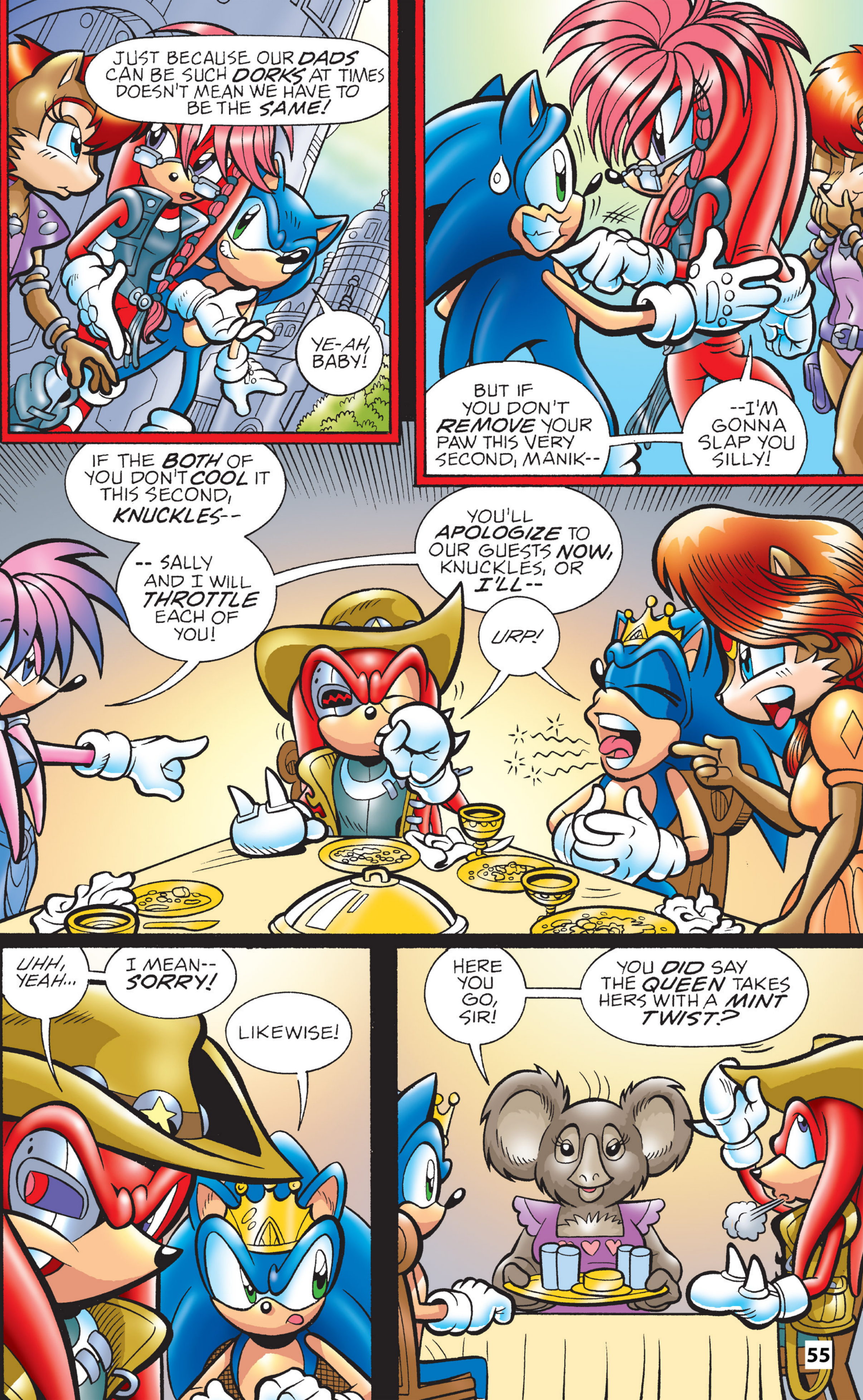
KEN PENDERS/Writer • STEVEN BUTLER/Penciler • JIM AMASH/Inker
JOHN E. WORKMAN/Letterer • JASON JENSEN/Colorist

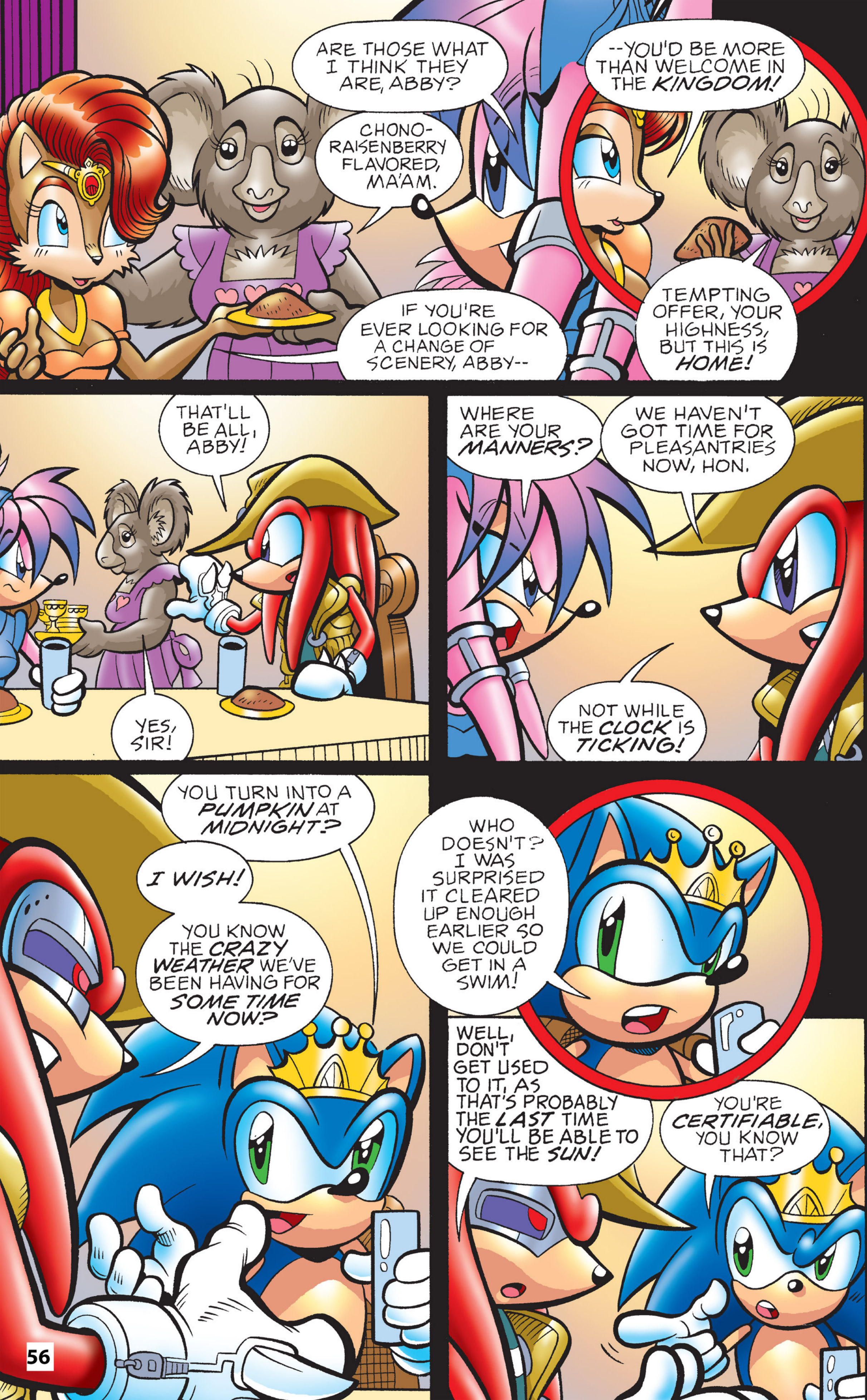

OH, YES! WHEN TAILS TOOK OFF TO MOVE *DOWNUNDA*--
SONIC DIDN'T EVEN SHOW UP AT THE TRANSPORT CENTER TO SAY *GOOD-BYE!*
DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE *SAME* HEDGEHOG I'M WATCHING *PLAY* WITH THE KIDS!
GOT IT!
I GOT IT!
GET IT, *LARA-SU!* GET IT!
NO PROB, *SONIA!*
THWAK
THUUMP!
BACK ATCHA, *MANIK!*
I GOT IT! I GOT IT!
THWUMP
NO, I GOT IT!
QUIT BEING SUCH A *'HOG,'* MANIK!
SPLASH

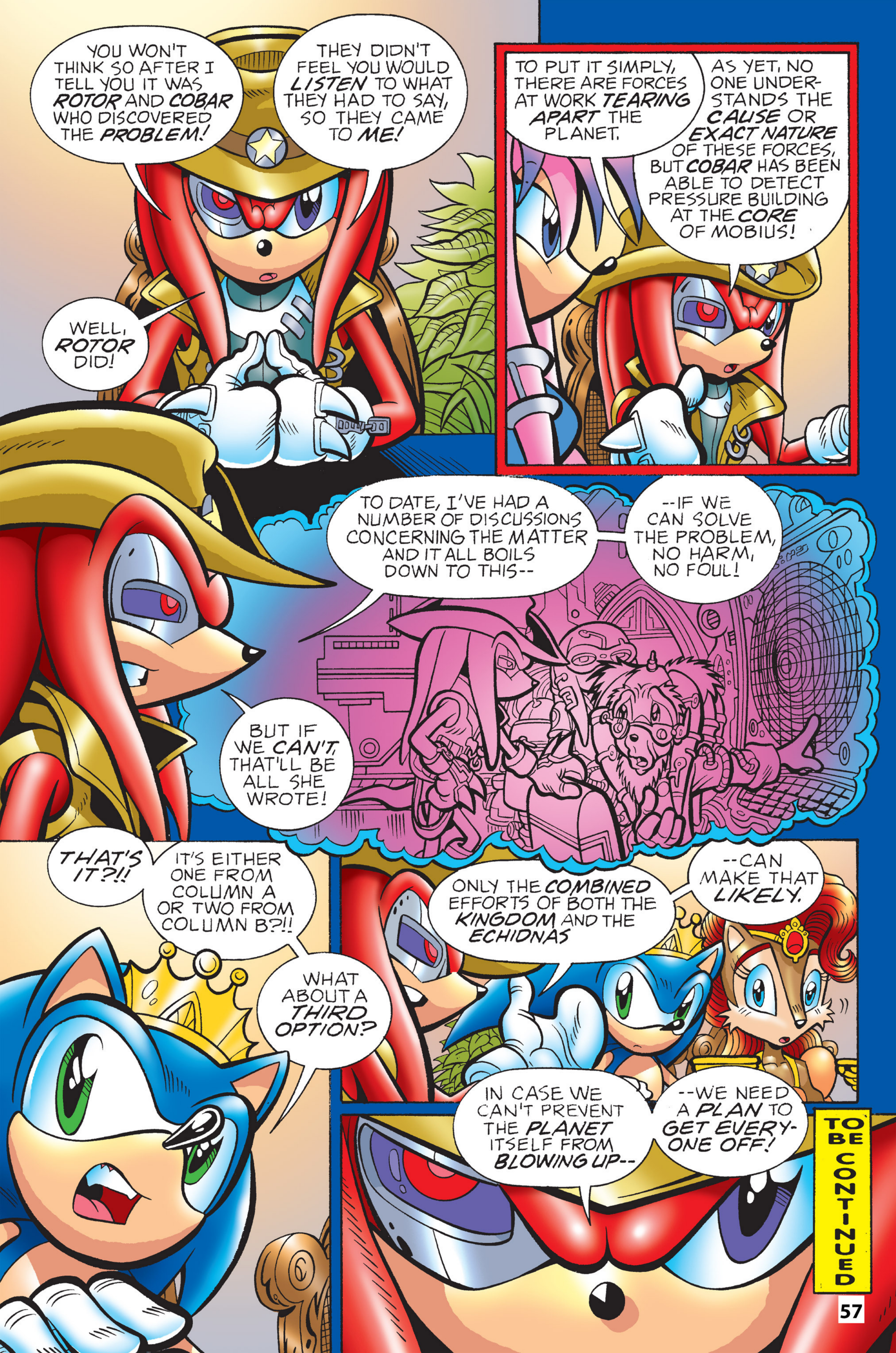

DAAD!
WHA'CHA GO 'N' *DO THAT* FOR?!
YOU'VE BEEN GETTING IN MY FACE ALL AFTERNOON, SON!
IT SEEMED LIKE THE *ONLY* WAY I'D GET A CRACK AT THE BALL.
SO *THIS* IS WHAT IT'S COME TO, *HUH?*
FROM OVER-THROWING *EVIL DICTATORS* TO DUNKING *HELPLESS CHILDREN!*
HELPLESS?!
HEY! JUST *WHO* ARE YOU CALLING *HELPLESS?!*
CAN IT, MANIK!
WELL, WELL, WELL --SO *LOOK* WHO DECIDED TO POP OUT OF THEIR *CAVE!*
AWWK!
GLUBB!
I DON'T DO *WATER!*
I GUESS YOU ALSO DON'T DO BEING A GOOD *HOST* TO YOUR *GUESTS!*
SAID THE *POT* TO THE *KETTLE!*
BUT I HAD MY *REASONS!*
SUCH AS?

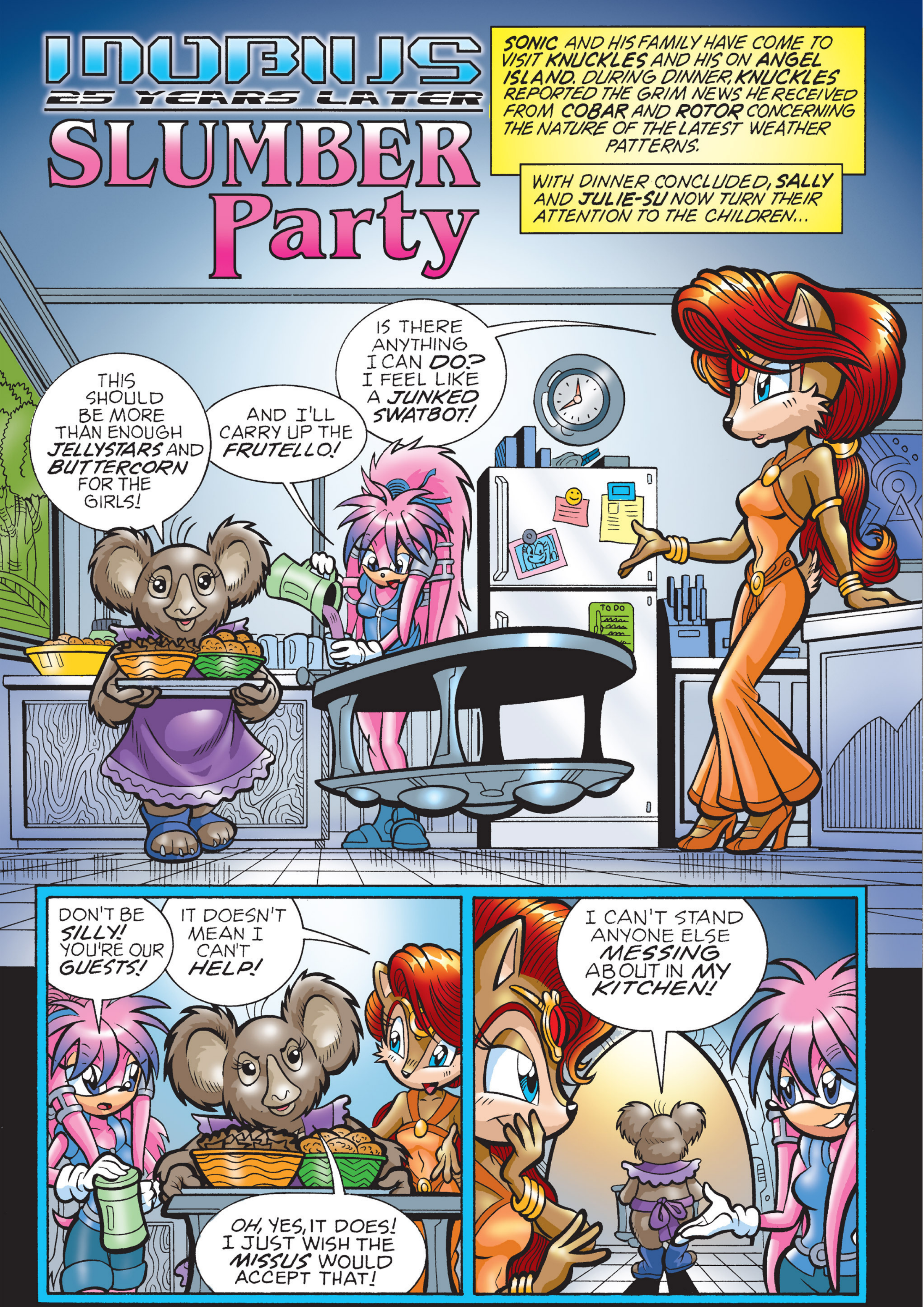

I ACTUALLY HADN'T COUNTED ON THIS BEING ANYTHING MORE THAN THE SAME-OL'-SAME-OL' WHENEVER OUR FAMILIES GET TOGETHER--
--THAT IS, A CHANCE FOR JULIE-SU, SALLY, AND THE KIDS TO SPEND A FEW DAYS RELAXING AND HAVING FUN--
--WHILE WE JUST *BARELY* TOLERATE EACH OTHER!
KNUCKLES! HOW *RUDE!*
IT'S *OKAY,* JULIE-SU!
I THOUGHT HE SUMMED IT ALL UP RIGHT ON THE MARK!
SO LET'S GET TO THE *PUNCHLINE*--
IN A MINUTE!
YES, ABBY?
BEGGING YOUR PARDON, SIR, BUT WILL *EVERYONE* BE HAVING *CHONO* WITH THEIR *DESSERT?*
JULIE-SU AND I WILL HAVE OUR *USUAL.* THE *QUEEN* TAKES HERS WITH A *MINT TWIST...*
...WHILE THE *KING* PREFERS HIS *STRAIGHT!*
SINCE WHEN DID *YOU* BECOME A *GOURMAND?*


THAT'LL BE ALL, ABBY! THANKS!
"GOURMAND"?
WHERE DID *YOU* LEARN SUCH A *24-KARAT WORD?*
SAME PLACE YOU LEARNED HOW TO ORDER FOR A DINNER PARTY!
NOT QUITE! I HAD *JULIE-SU!*
ON THE FLIP SIDE, *SALLY* MUST HAVE HAD HECKUVA A TIME...
...GETTING YOU TO PICK UP YOUR GAME!
I DON'T SEE YOU BEING *RESPONSIBLE* FOR EVERYTHING THAT GOES ON THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND!
YEAH, THAT'S 'CAUSE MY CONCERNS ARE MORE *GLOBAL!*
WHAT A *LAUGH!* WHERE WERE YOU *DURING* THE *OVERLANDER UPRISING* LAST SUMMER?
I WAS BUSY...
...WITH THE *DRONE PROBLEM...*
...WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THAT *MESS!*
Y'KNOW, I THINK WE'RE BETTER OFF GOING *OUTSIDE* RIGHT NOW, GUYS!
PROMISE ME WE WON'T ARGUE LIKE OUR *DADS,* LARA-SU!
I WOULD *HATE* TO *LOSE* YOU AS A *FRIEND.*

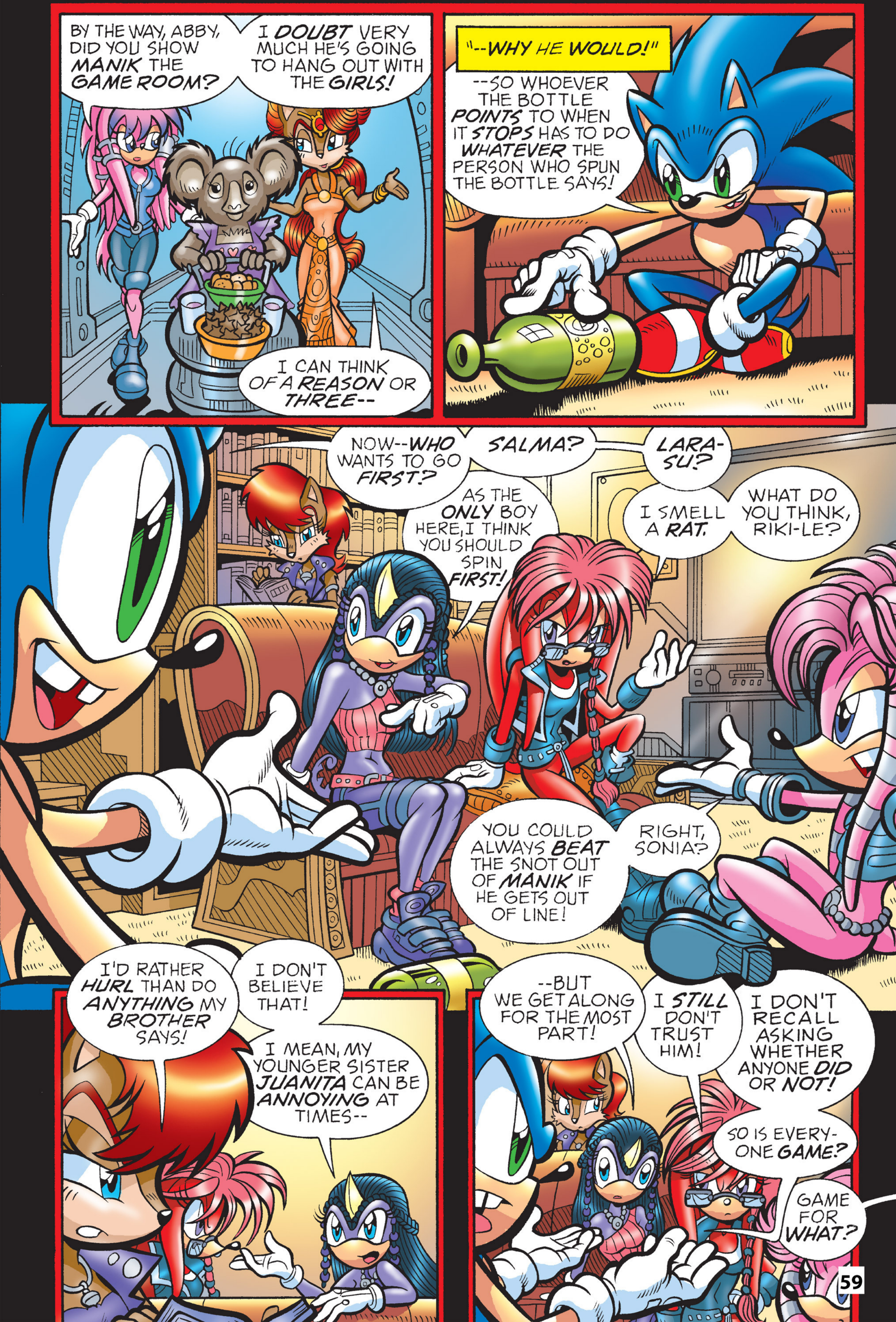

JUST BECAUSE OUR *DADS* CAN BE SUCH *DORKS* AT TIMES DOESN'T MEAN WE HAVE TO BE THE *SAME!*
YE-AH, BABY!
BUT IF YOU DON'T *REMOVE* YOUR PAW THIS VERY SECOND, MANIK--
--I'M GONNA SLAP YOU SILLY!
IF THE *BOTH* OF YOU DON'T *COOL* IT THIS SECOND, *KNUCKLES*--
-- SALLY AND I WILL *THROTTLE* EACH OF YOU!
YOU'LL *APOLOGIZE* TO OUR GUESTS *NOW,* KNUCKLES, OR *I'LL*--
URP!
UHH, YEAH...
I MEAN-- *SORRY!*
LIKEWISE!
HERE YOU GO, SIR!
YOU *DID* SAY THE *QUEEN* TAKES HERS WITH A *MINT TWIST?*

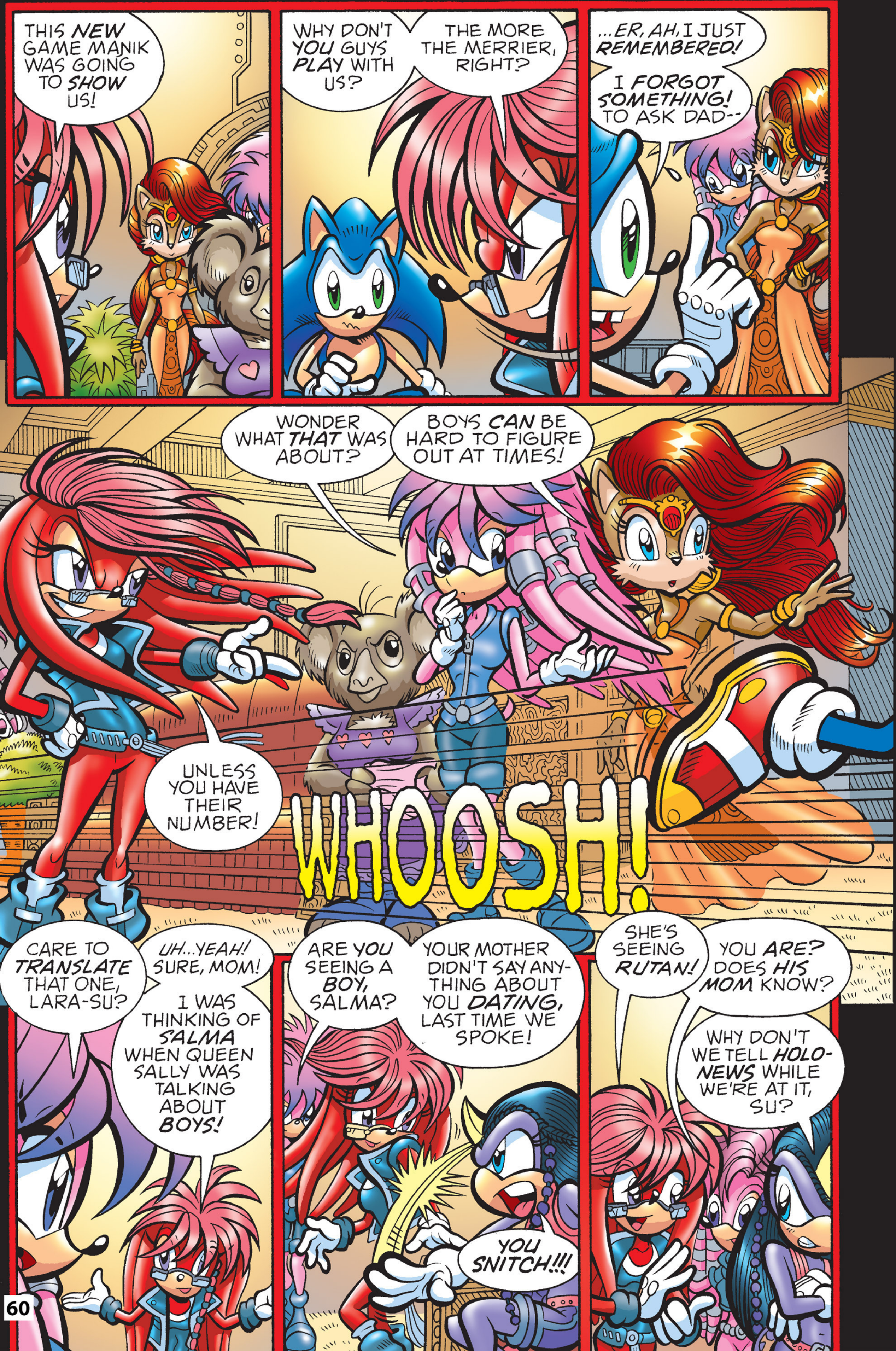

ARE THOSE WHAT I THINK THEY ARE, ABBY?
CHONO-RAISENBERRY FLAVORED, MA'AM.
--YOU'D BE MORE THAN WELCOME IN THE *KINGDOM!*
IF YOU'RE EVER LOOKING FOR A CHANGE OF SCENERY, ABBY--
TEMPTING OFFER, YOUR HIGHNESS, BUT THIS IS *HOME!*
THAT'LL BE ALL, ABBY!
YES, SIR!
WHERE ARE YOUR *MANNERS?*
WE HAVEN'T GOT TIME FOR PLEASANTRIES NOW, HON.
NOT WHILE THE *CLOCK* IS *TICKING!*
YOU TURN INTO A *PUMPKIN* AT *MIDNIGHT?*
I WISH!
YOU KNOW THE *CRAZY WEATHER* WE'VE BEEN HAVING FOR *SOME TIME NOW?*
WHO DOESN'T? I WAS SURPRISED IT CLEARED UP ENOUGH EARLIER SO WE COULD GET IN A SWIM!
WELL, DON'T GET USED TO IT, AS THAT'S PROBABLY THE *LAST* TIME YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THE *SUN!*
YOU'RE *CERTIFIABLE,* YOU KNOW THAT?

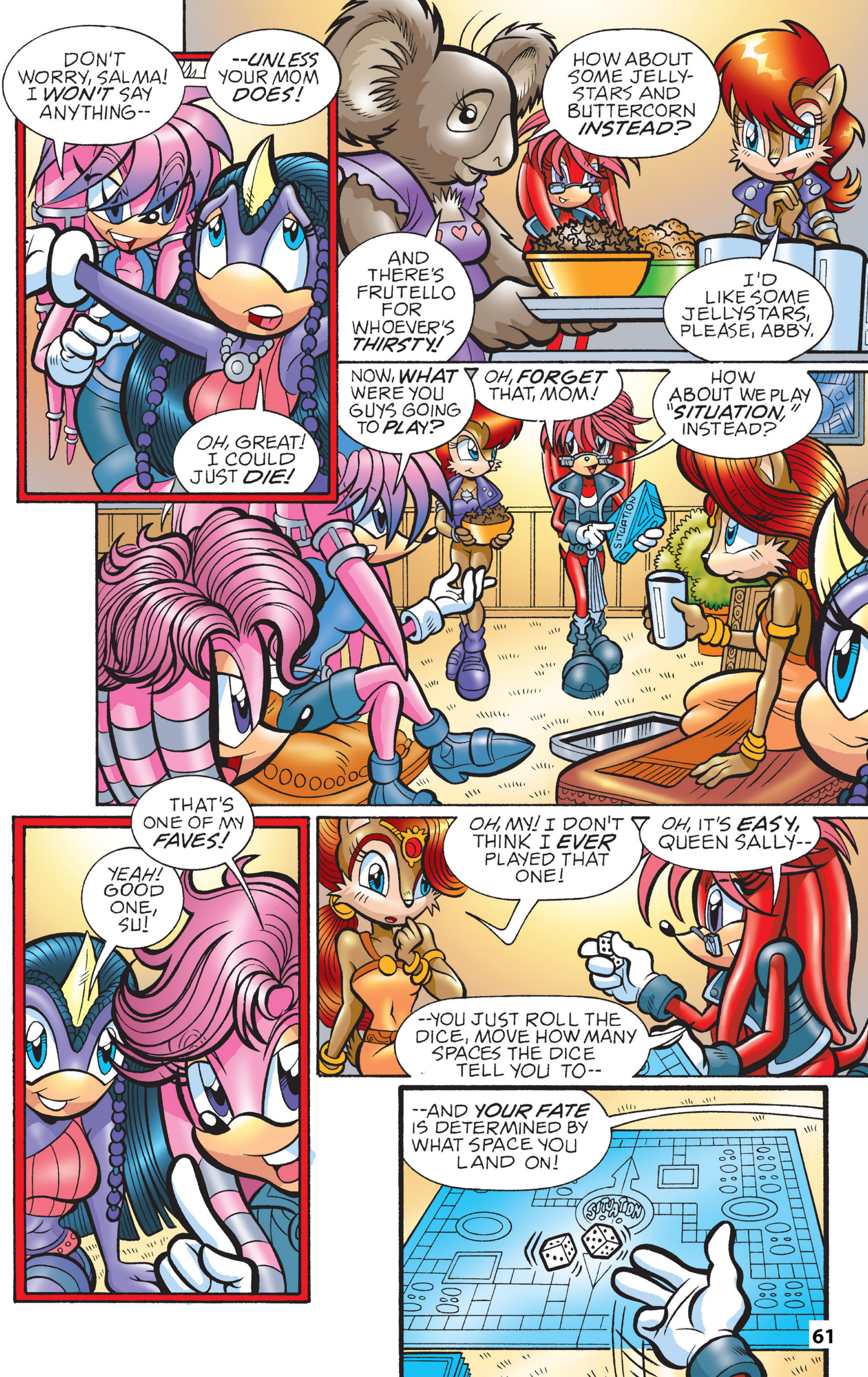

YOU WON'T THINK SO AFTER I TELL YOU IT WAS ROTOR AND COBAR WHO DISCOVERED THE PROBLEM!
THEY DIDN'T FEEL YOU WOULD LISTEN TO WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY, SO THEY CAME TO ME!
WELL, ROTOR DID!
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, THERE ARE FORCES AT WORK TEARING APART THE PLANET.
AS YET, NO ONE UNDERSTANDS THE CAUSE OR EXACT NATURE OF THESE FORCES, BUT COBAR HAS BEEN ABLE TO DETECT PRESSURE BUILDING AT THE CORE OF MOBIUS!
TO DATE, I'VE HAD A NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE MATTER AND IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO THIS--
--IF WE CAN SOLVE THE PROBLEM, NO HARM, NO FOUL!
BUT IF WE CAN'T, THAT'LL BE ALL SHE WROTE!
THAT'S IT?!!
IT'S EITHER ONE FROM COLUMN A OR TWO FROM COLUMN B?!!
WHAT ABOUT A THIRD OPTION?
ONLY THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF BOTH THE KINGDOM AND THE ECHIDNAS
--CAN MAKE THAT LIKELY.
IN CASE WE CAN'T PREVENT THE PLANET ITSELF FROM BLOWING UP--
--WE NEED A PLAN TO GET EVERYONE OFF!
TO BE CONTINUED

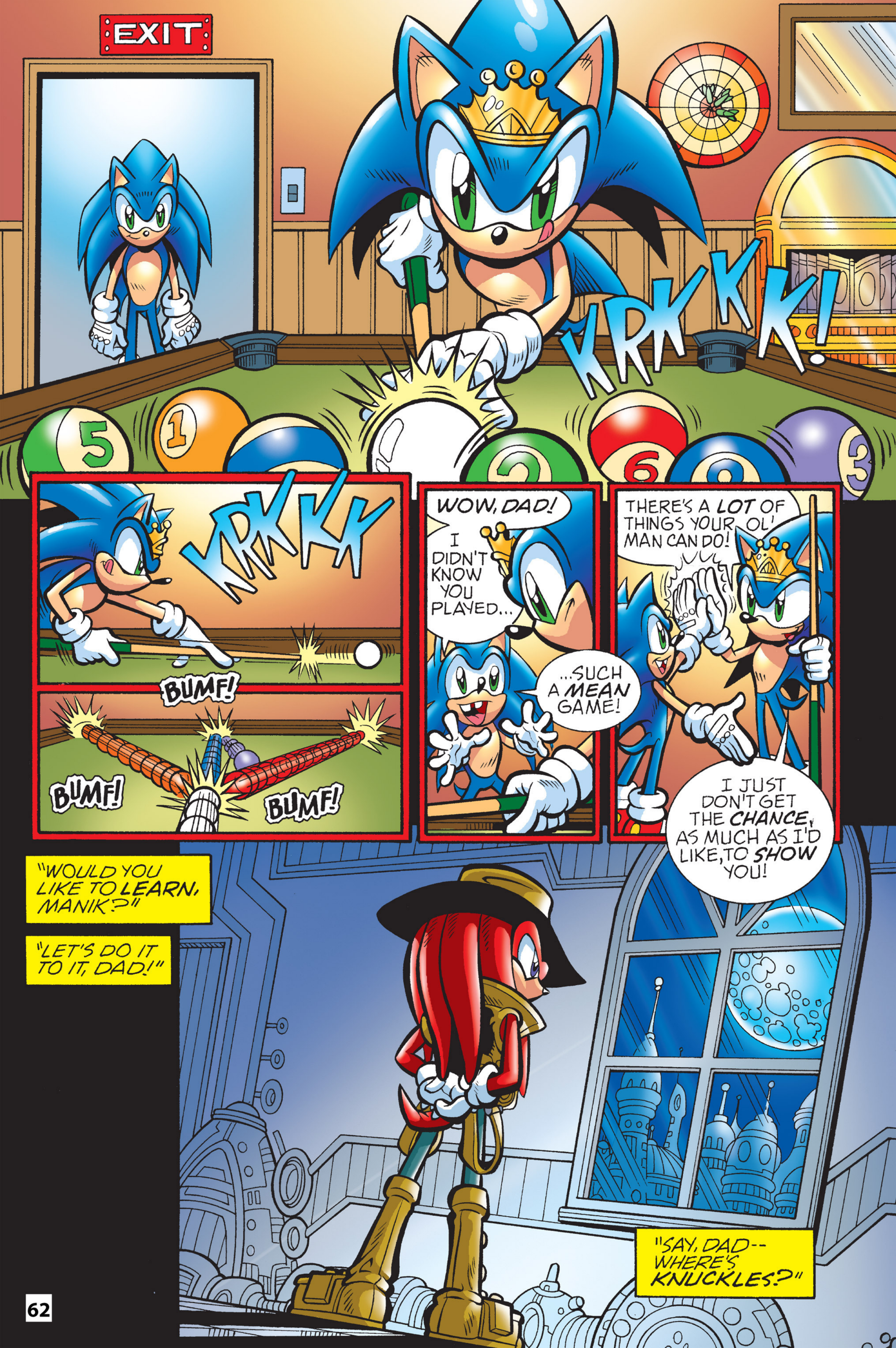

MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER
SLUMBER Party
SONIC AND HIS FAMILY HAVE COME TO VISIT KNUCKLES AND HIS ON ANGEL ISLAND. DURING DINNER, KNUCKLES REPORTED THE GRIM NEWS HE RECEIVED FROM COBAR AND ROTOR CONCERNING THE NATURE OF THE LATEST WEATHER PATTERNS.
WITH DINNER CONCLUDED, SALLY AND JULIE-SU NOW TURN THEIR ATTENTION TO THE CHILDREN...
THIS SHOULD BE MORE THAN ENOUGH JELLYSTARS AND BUTTERCORN FOR THE GIRLS!
AND I'LL CARRY UP THE FRUTELLO!
IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO? I FEEL LIKE A JUNKED SWATBOT!
TO DO
DON'T BE SILLY! YOU'RE OUR GUESTS!
IT DOESN'T MEAN I CAN'T HELP!
OH, YES, IT DOES! I JUST WISH THE MISSUS WOULD ACCEPT THAT!
I CAN'T STAND ANYONE ELSE MESSING ABOUT IN MY KITCHEN!

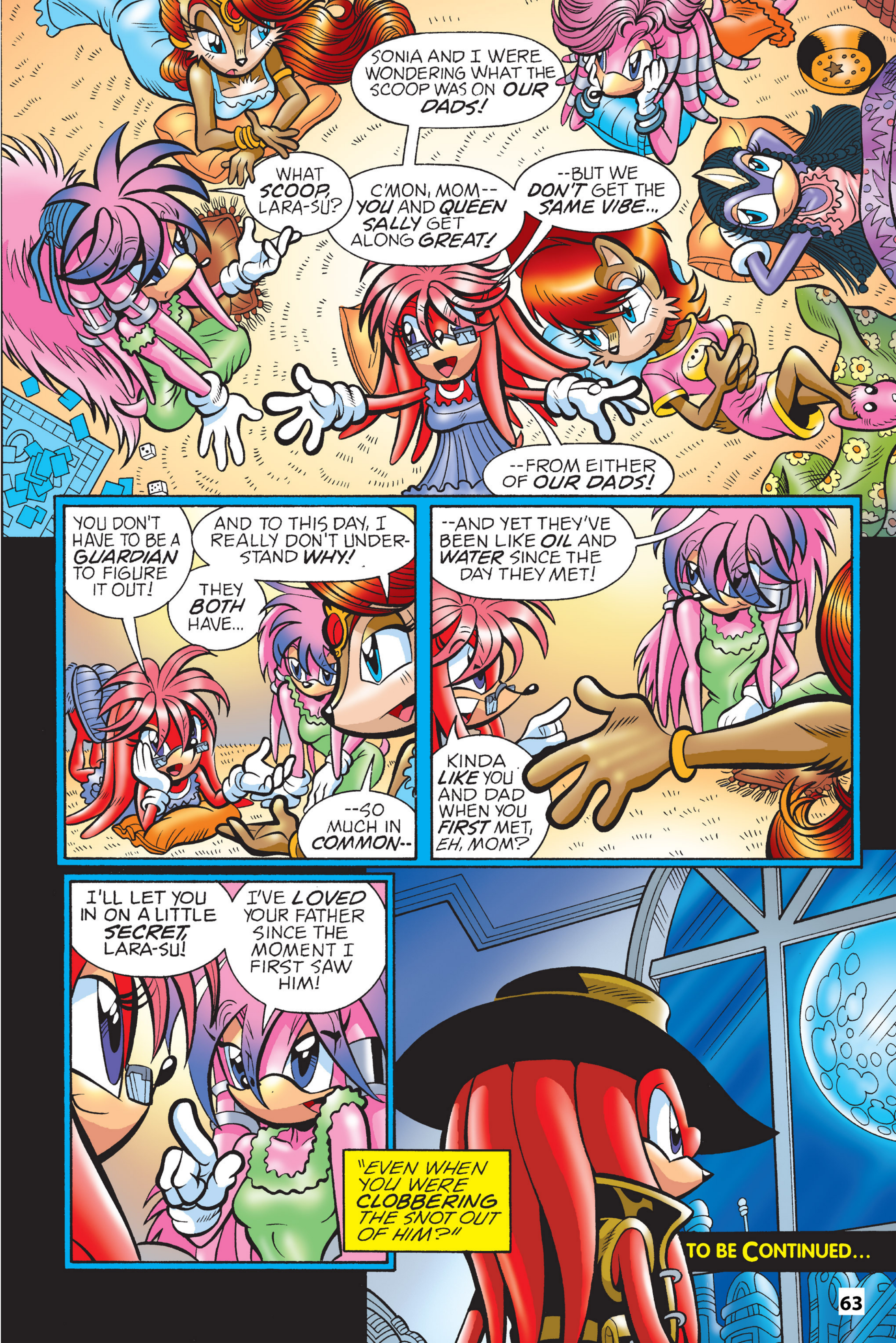
KEN PENDERS/Writer • STEVEN BUTLER/Penciler • JIM AMASH/Inker
JOHN E. WORKMAN/Letterer • JASON JENSEN/Colorist


BY THE WAY, ABBY, DID YOU SHOW MANIK THE GAME ROOM?
I DOUBT VERY MUCH HE'S GOING TO HANG OUT WITH THE GIRLS!
I CAN THINK OF A REASON OR THREE--
"--WHY HE WOULD!"
--SO WHOEVER THE BOTTLE POINTS TO WHEN IT STOPS HAS TO DO WHATEVER THE PERSON WHO SPUN THE BOTTLE SAYS!
NOW--WHO WANTS TO GO FIRST?
SALMA?
LARA-SU?
AS THE ONLY BOY HERE, I THINK YOU SHOULD SPIN FIRST!
I SMELL A RAT.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, RIKI-LE?
YOU COULD ALWAYS BEAT THE SNOT OUT OF MANIK IF HE GETS OUT OF LINE!
RIGHT, SONIA?
I'D RATHER HURL THAN DO ANYTHING MY BROTHER SAYS!
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT!
I MEAN, MY YOUNGER SISTER JUANITA CAN BE ANNOYING AT TIMES--
--BUT WE GET ALONG FOR THE MOST PART!
I STILL DON'T TRUST HIM!
I DON'T RECALL ASKING WHETHER ANYONE DID OR NOT!
SO IS EVERYONE GAME?
GAME FOR WHAT?


THIS *NEW* GAME MANIK WAS GOING TO *SHOW* US!
WHY DON'T *YOU* GUYS *PLAY* WITH US?
THE MORE THE MERRIER, RIGHT?
...*ER, AH, I JUST REMEMBERED!*
I *FORGOT SOMETHING!* TO ASK DAD--
WONDER WHAT *THAT* WAS ABOUT?
BOYS *CAN* BE HARD TO FIGURE OUT AT TIMES!
UNLESS YOU HAVE THEIR NUMBER!
WHOOSH!
CARE TO *TRANSLATE* THAT ONE, LARA-SU?
UH...YEAH! SURE, MOM!
I WAS THINKING OF *SALMA* WHEN QUEEN SALLY WAS TALKING ABOUT *BOYS!*
ARE *YOU* SEEING A *BOY,* SALMA?
YOUR MOTHER DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT YOU *DATING,* LAST TIME WE SPOKE!
YOU SNITCH!!!
SHE'S SEEING *RUTAN!*
YOU *ARE?* DOES *HIS MOM* KNOW?
WHY DON'T WE TELL *HOLO-NEWS* WHILE WE'RE AT IT, SU?


DON'T WORRY, SALMA! I *WON'T* SAY ANYTHING--
--*UNLESS* YOUR MOM *DOES!*
OH, GREAT! I COULD JUST *DIE!*
HOW ABOUT SOME JELLYSTARS AND BUTTERCORN *INSTEAD?*
AND THERE'S FRUTELLO FOR WHOEVER'S *THIRSTY!*
I'D LIKE SOME JELLYSTARS, PLEASE, ABBY.
NOW, *WHAT* WERE YOU GUYS GOING TO *PLAY?*
OH, *FORGET* THAT, MOM!
HOW ABOUT WE PLAY "*SITUATION,*" INSTEAD?
SITUATION
THAT'S ONE OF MY *FAVES!*
YEAH! GOOD ONE, SU!
OH, MY! I DON'T THINK I *EVER* PLAYED THAT ONE!
OH, IT'S *EASY,* QUEEN SALLY--
--YOU JUST ROLL THE DICE, MOVE HOW MANY SPACES THE DICE TELL YOU TO--
--AND *YOUR FATE* IS DETERMINED BY WHAT SPACE YOU LAND ON!
SITUATION


EXIT
KRAKKK!
KRAKKK
BUMF!
BUMF!
BUMF!
WOW, DAD!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU PLAYED...
...SUCH A MEAN GAME!
THERE'S A LOT OF THINGS YOUR OL' MAN CAN DO!
I JUST DON'T GET THE CHANCE, AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE, TO SHOW YOU!
"WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN, MANIK?"
"LET'S DO IT TO IT, DAD!"
"SAY, DAD-- WHERE'S KNUCKLES?"


SONIA AND I WERE WONDERING WHAT THE SCOOP WAS ON *OUR DADS!*
WHAT *SCOOP,* LARA-SU?
C'MON, MOM-- *YOU* AND *QUEEN SALLY* GET ALONG *GREAT!*
--BUT WE *DON'T* GET THE *SAME VIBE...*
--FROM EITHER OF *OUR DADS!*
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A *GUARDIAN* TO FIGURE IT OUT!
AND TO THIS DAY, I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND *WHY!*
THEY *BOTH* HAVE...
--SO MUCH IN *COMMON--*
--AND YET THEY'VE BEEN LIKE *OIL* AND *WATER* SINCE THE DAY THEY MET!
KINDA *LIKE* YOU AND DAD WHEN YOU *FIRST* MET, *EH, MOM?*
I'LL LET YOU IN ON A LITTLE *SECRET,* LARA-SU!
I'VE *LOVED* YOUR FATHER SINCE THE MOMENT I FIRST SAW HIM!
"EVEN WHEN YOU WERE **CLOBBERING** *THE SNOT OUT OF HIM?"*
TO BE CONTINUED...

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL PRESENTS A LOOK BACK AT

MOBIUS

25 YEARS LATER

THE FUTURE UNFOLDS

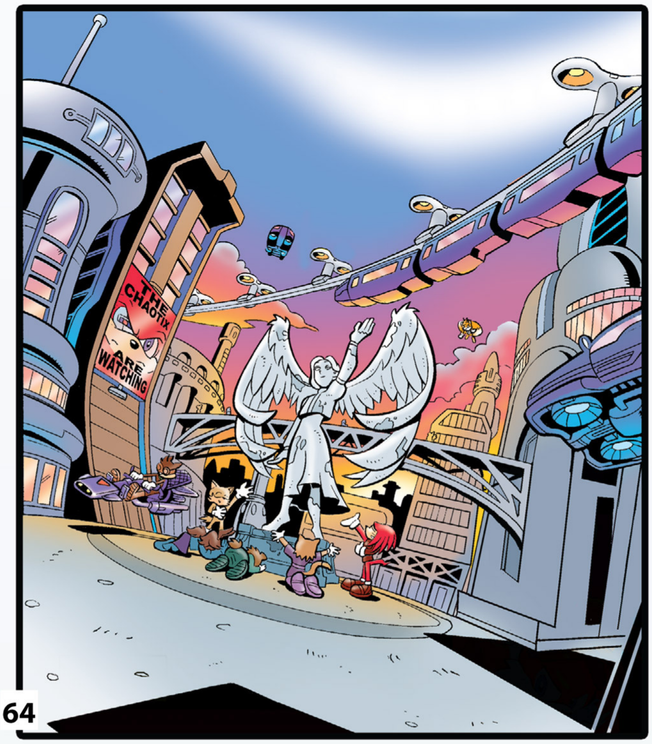
“The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time…” – Abraham Lincoln

All things considered, “Mobius 25 Years Later” was a pretty ambitious project.

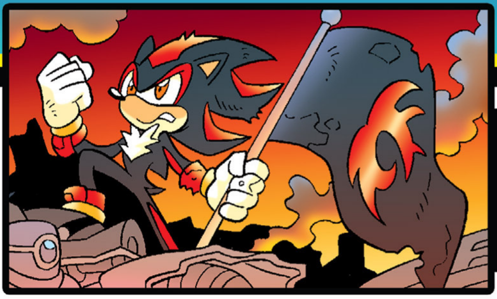
With 238+ issues, at least 6 books in-universe (2 carrying the name “Super Special”), several miniseries and a score of graphic novels, Sonic the Hedgehog is still running strong bringing enjoyment to kids everywhere! But what about its future?

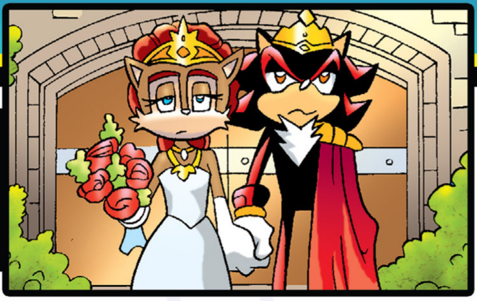
In the very first Sonic Special – “Sonic: In Your Face” – Princess Sally led the Freedom Fighters into Robotnik’s territory, fighting monsters and robots alike to discover the legacy left by Sally’s teacher. One that Sally would never understand…until the far future. There we saw the fates of Sonic, Sally, Rotor, Antione, Bunnie and even a wizened King Acorn. As an epilogue of sorts, in Sonic the Hedgehog #23 we even saw a glimpse of Sonic and Sally’s then unnamed children as the seeds of what would become “Mobius 25 Years Later,” and the threat of time collapsing in on itself, were sown….

“25 Years Later” was an attempt to revisit that future and witness the happy days fans imagined the characters to have. The threat of Dr. Robotnik was no more. Sonic and Sally’s children were named Manik and Sonia in honor of Sonic’s “brother and sister” from the then-airing Sonic Underground cartoon. Knuckles had his own kid named Lara-Su. The characters had settled into mundane trivialities like every day people and everyone we’d grown up reading between “In Your Face” and the start of the back-up stories had grown up. Meanwhile, the skies grew darker and darker.



Sonic yearned for his days of adventure, Knuckles struggled with raising a daughter whom he was hesitant to let follow in his footsteps, and in a rather off-the-wall choice, Tails somehow formed a bond with Mina and had kids of his own. The future wasn’t quite what we had in mind. Meanwhile, amongst the day-to-day humdrum living – none of the characters were prepared for the day that time wound up unraveling itself. King Sonic was elected to go into the timestream and fix whatever it was that caused the problem – not knowing that Lara-Su was defying



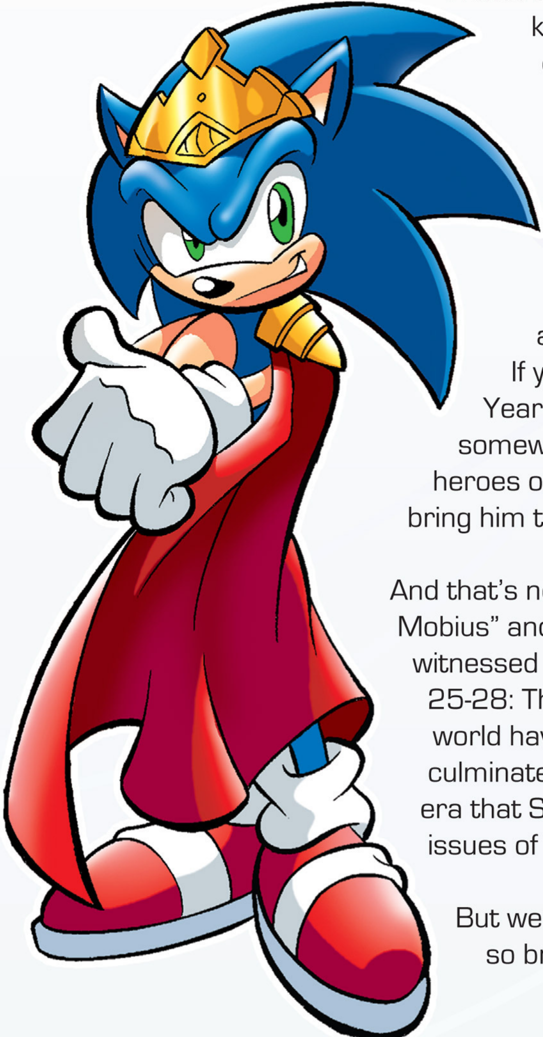


her dad's wishes and stowed along for the ride.

And then – just like that – it ended. We went back to Present Sonic and Tails and it was all a dream...

Until, many issues later, when new writer Ian Flynn and new editor Mike Pellerito decided to revisit the story and open the world of the future up for more.

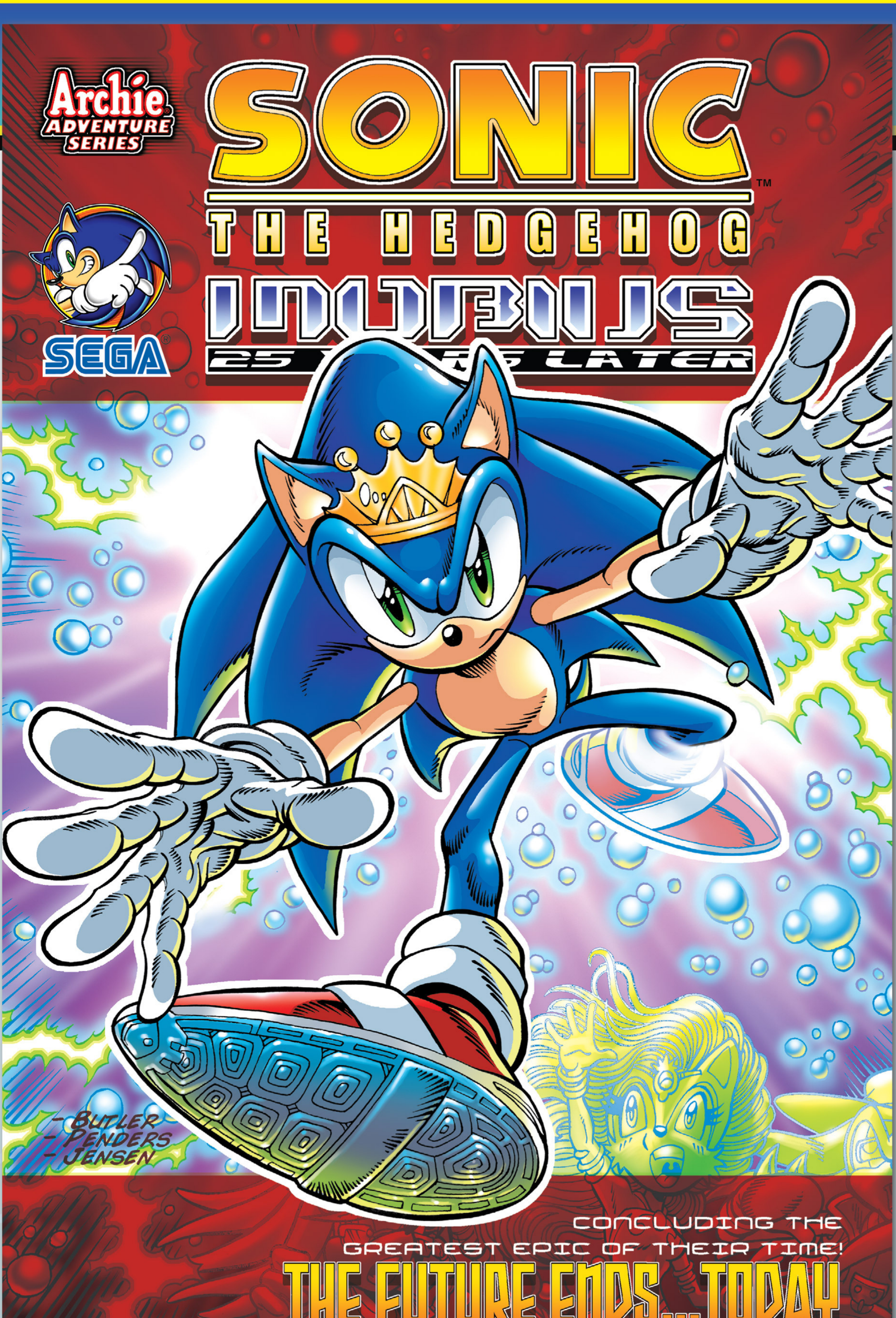
Suddenly, the once serene future was twisted on its ear. Sonic's trip to fix the future's unraveling had wound up wiping him out of time entirely. With no Sonic, Shadow was left to be the hero of Mobius. And with no snarky hedgehog to temper his surly demeanor, Shadow went from a surly hero to a well-intentioned extremist. The tone of the story changed and for the first time, King Sonic – penniliess, without his title, without his family, without the exploits and bravado – recognized everything he'd lost in that one impulsive moment to gain his former glory back. Little known fact – a certain part of the story had to be tempered down because, at the time, it was almost too heart-wrenching on our hero.

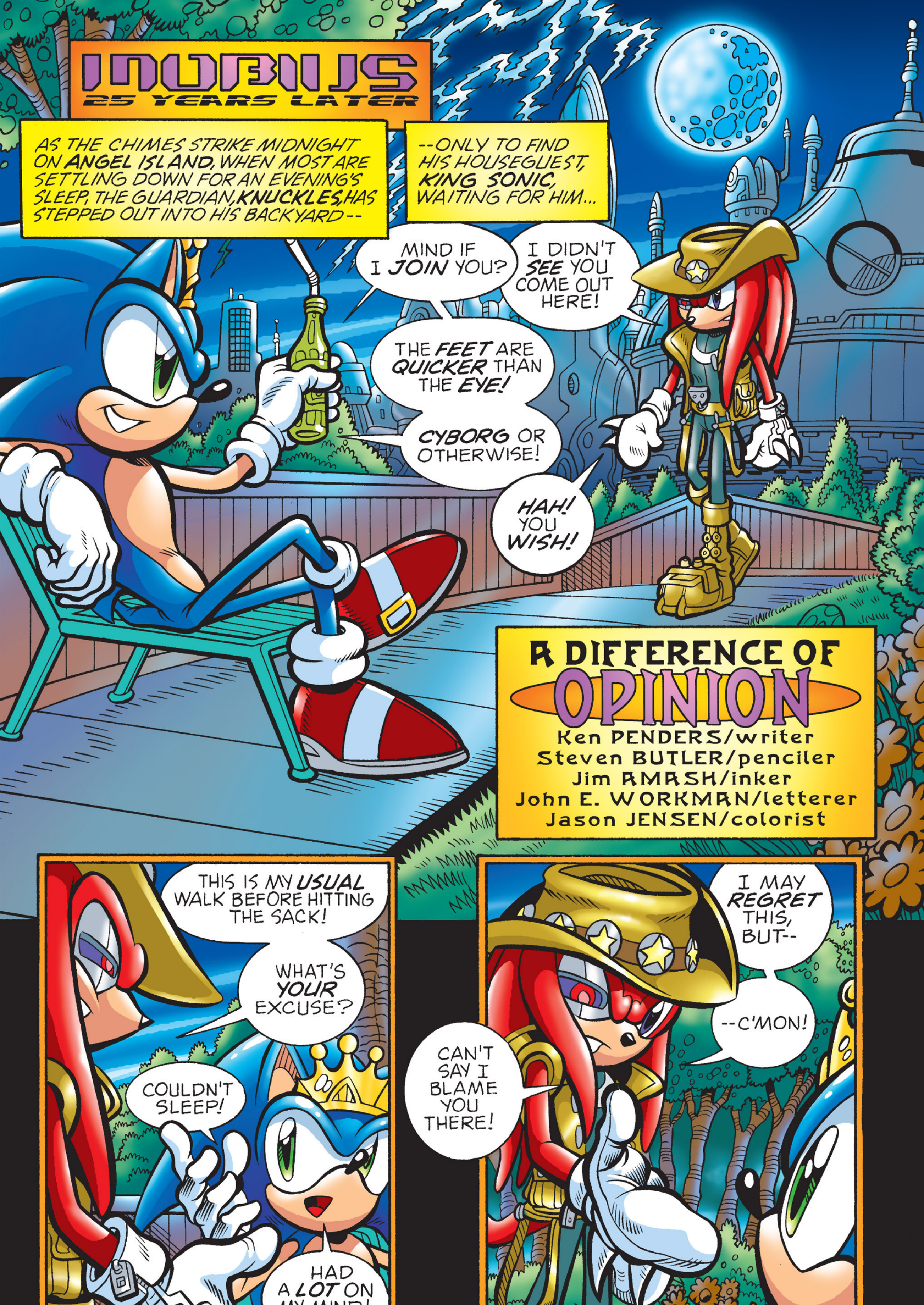


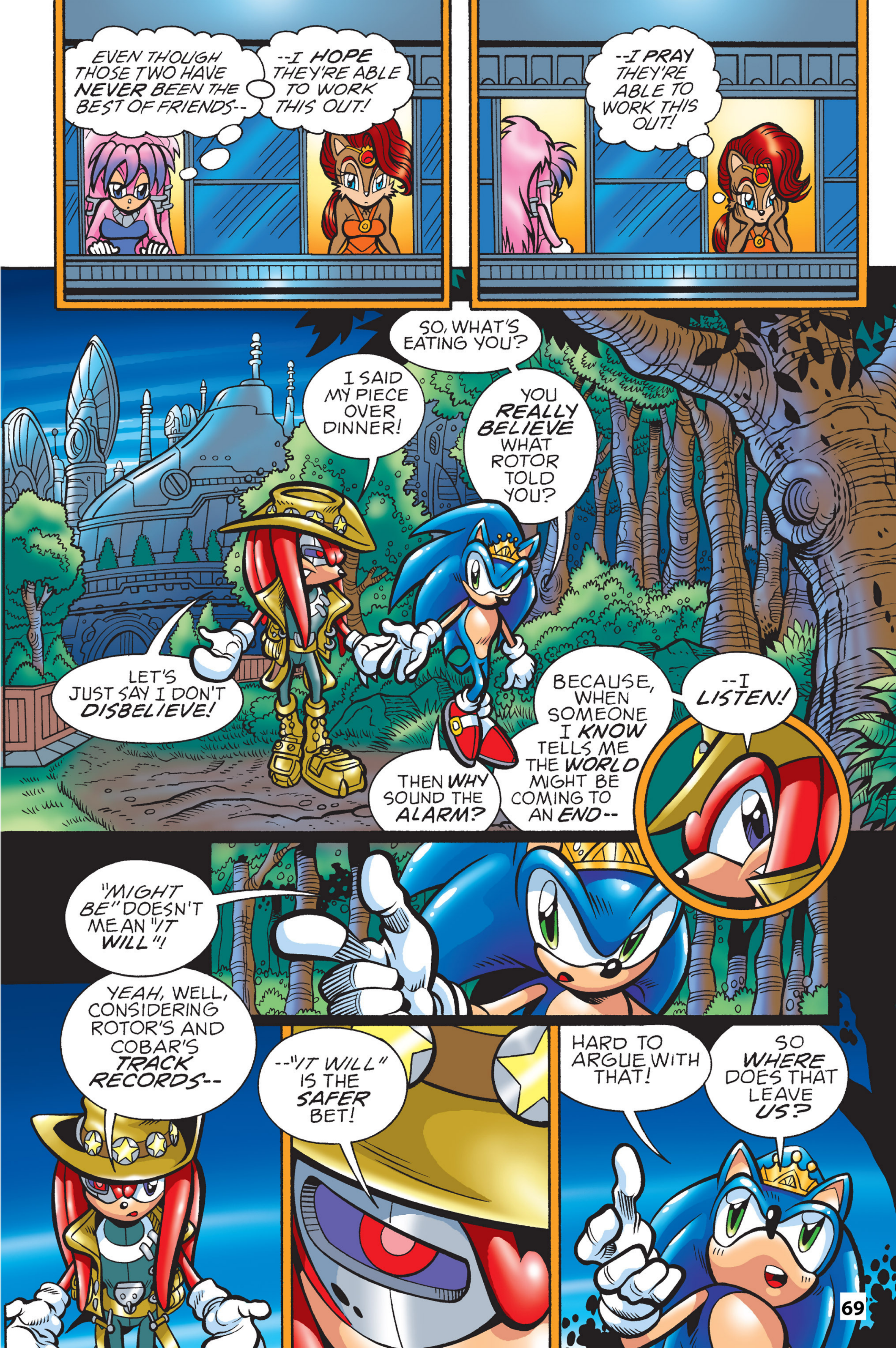
Sonic, Tails and Knuckles became the triple threat again to bring adventure back to a stagnant future gone terribly dark. In the end, King Shadow was defeated and peace reigned true once more. Sonic started life anew, but this time – he did it right and learned that you can have adventure AND appreciate the joy that life has given you. If you picked up the "Sonic Universe - Book 2: Mobius 30 Years Later" trade, you'll know that King Shadow escaped and is somewhere out there in the timeline...watching...waiting. But now, heroes of the future and the past – will be out there to stop him and bring him to his senses!

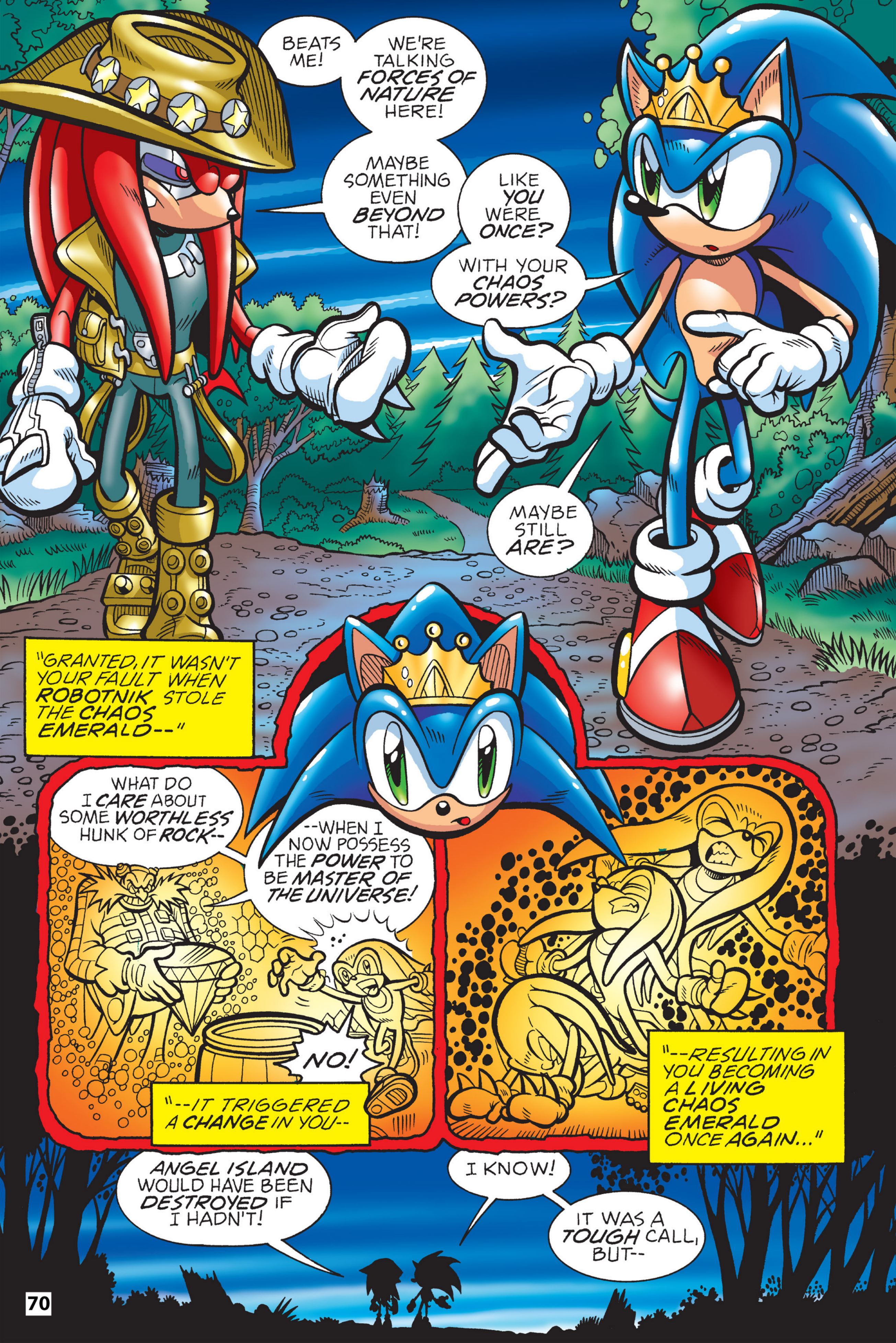
And that's not all – because now there are two futures! M30YL's "Light Mobius" and the even stranger Enerjak-controlled "Dark Mobius" as witnessed by time traveler Silver the Hedgehog in "Sonic Universe 25-28: The Silver Saga". What do two futures mean? How can a world have two futures? Could there be more? And how do they all culminate into the horrible world-shattering, constantly changing era that Silver the Hedgehog calls home? You'll have to keep reading issues of Sonic the Hedgehog and Sonic Universe to find out!

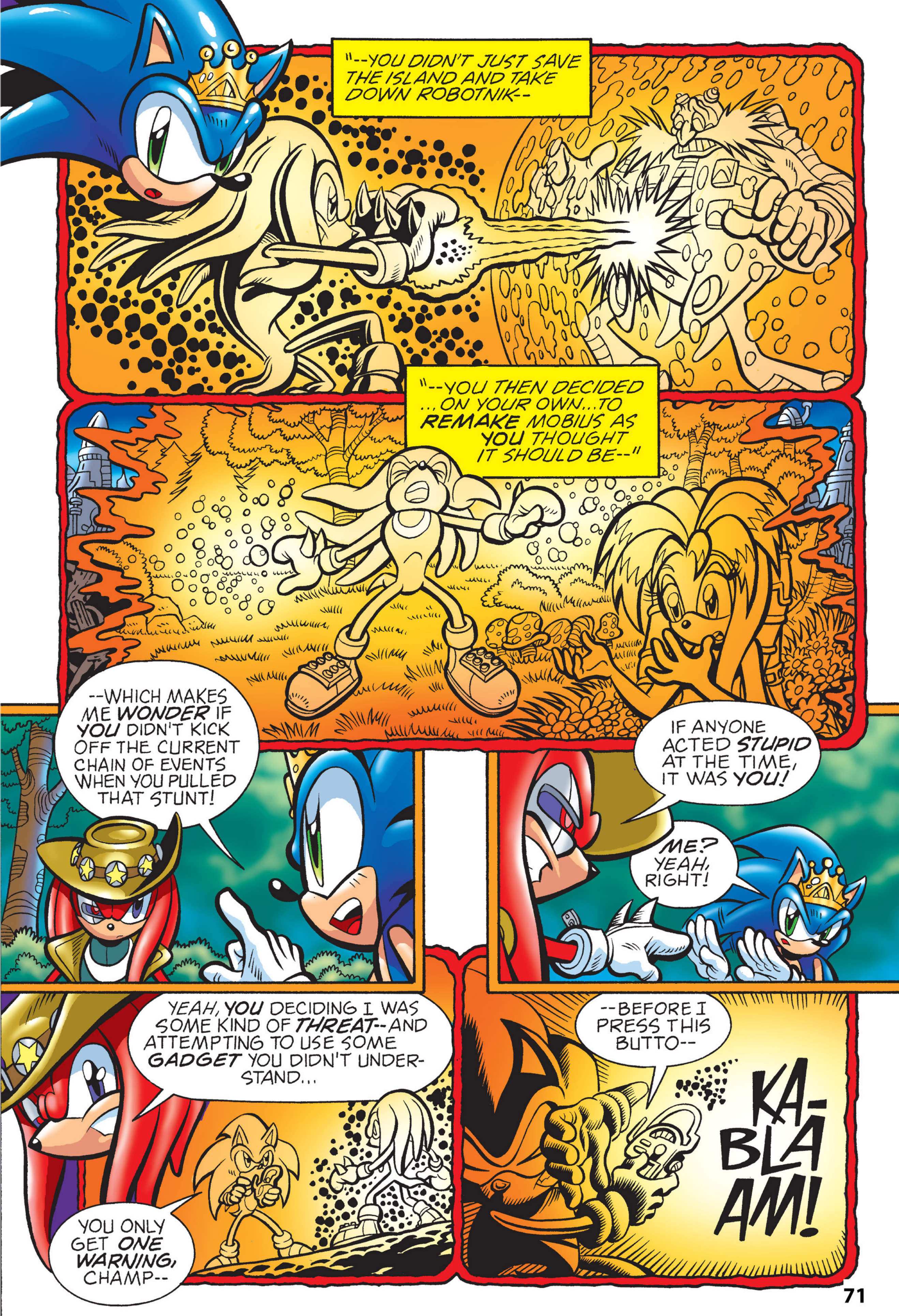
But we're not worried! Because until that day comes...the future's so bright that we've all gotta wear shades. ■ **Jonathan Gray**

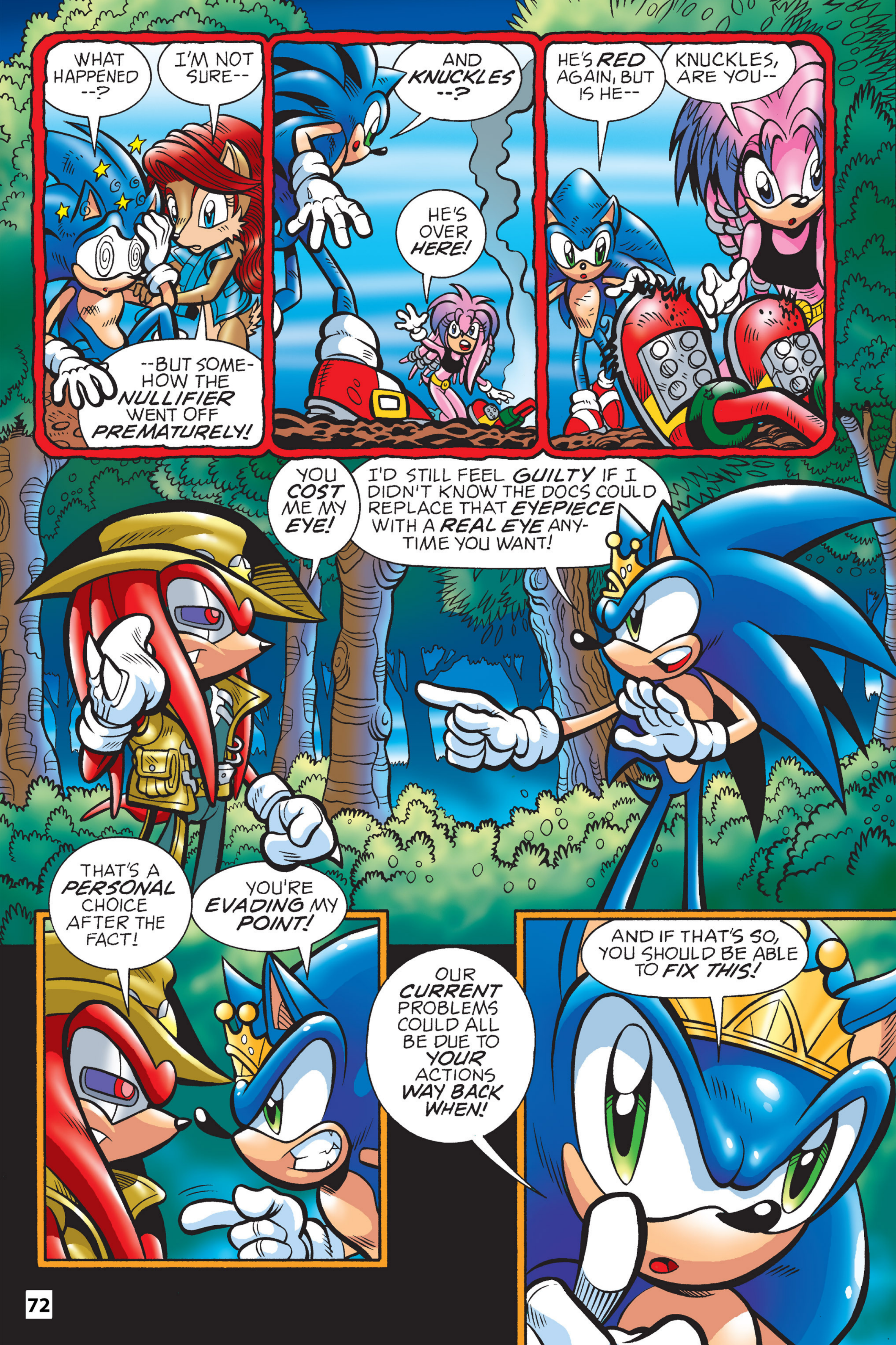

Archie ADVENTURE SERIES
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
MOBIUS
25 … S LATER
SEGA®
-BUTLER
-PENDERS
-JENSEN
CONCLUDING THE GREATEST EPIC OF THEIR TIME!
THE FUTURE ENDS...TODAY

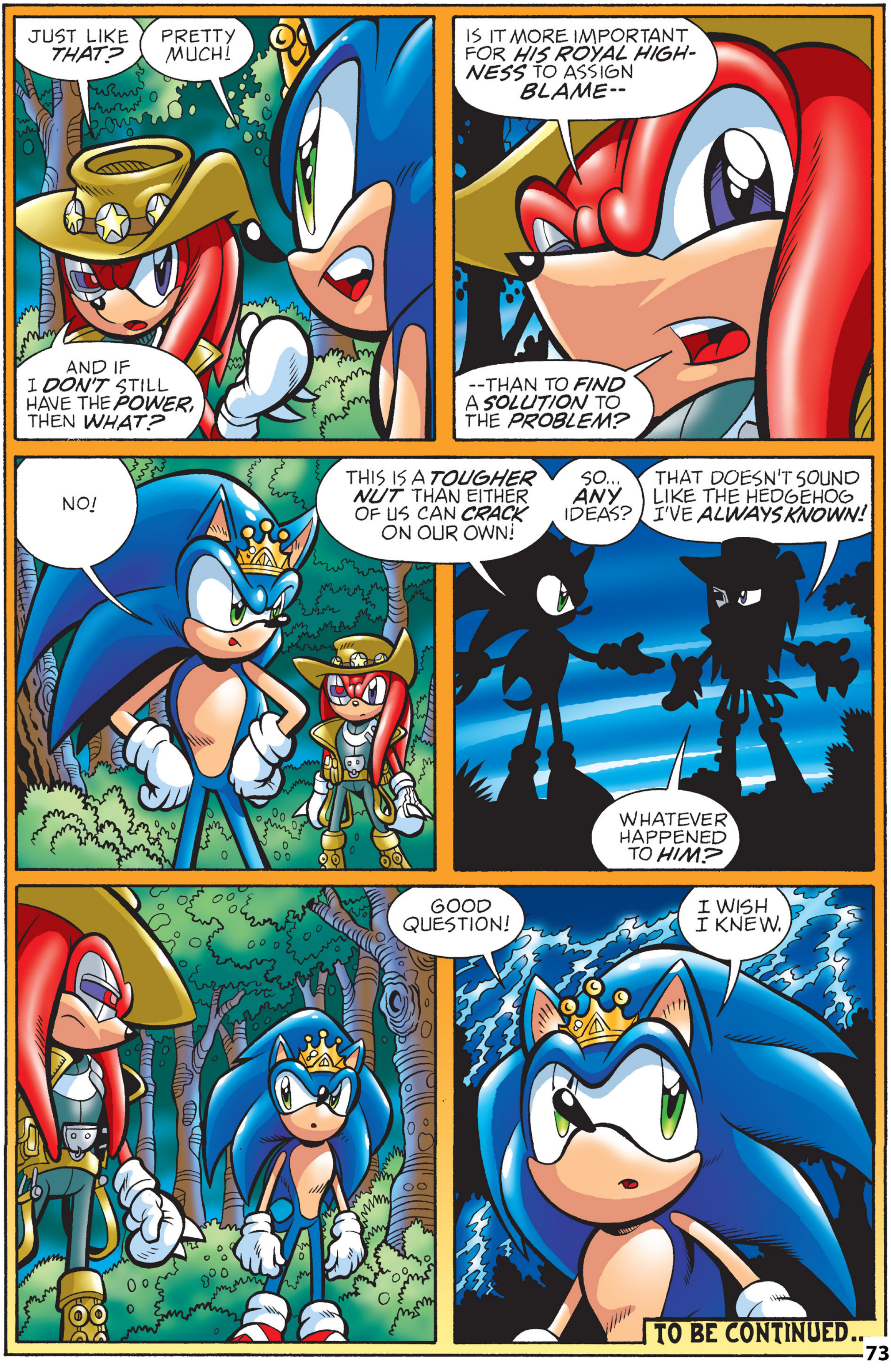

MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER
AS THE CHIMES STRIKE MIDNIGHT ON ANGEL ISLAND, WHEN MOST ARE SETTLING DOWN FOR AN EVENING'S SLEEP, THE GUARDIAN, KNUCKLES, HAS STEPPED OUT INTO HIS BACKYARD--
--ONLY TO FIND HIS HOUSEGUEST, KING SONIC, WAITING FOR HIM...
MIND IF I JOIN YOU?
I DIDN'T SEE YOU COME OUT HERE!
THE FEET ARE QUICKER THAN THE EYE!
CYBORG OR OTHERWISE!
HAH! YOU WISH!
A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION
Ken PENDERS/writer
Steven BUTLER/penciler
Jim AMASH/inker
John E. WORKMAN/letterer
Jason JENSEN/colorist
THIS IS MY USUAL WALK BEFORE HITTING THE SACK!
WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?
COULDN'T SLEEP!
HAD A LOT ON MY MIND!
I MAY REGRET THIS, BUT--
--C'MON!
CAN'T SAY I BLAME YOU THERE!

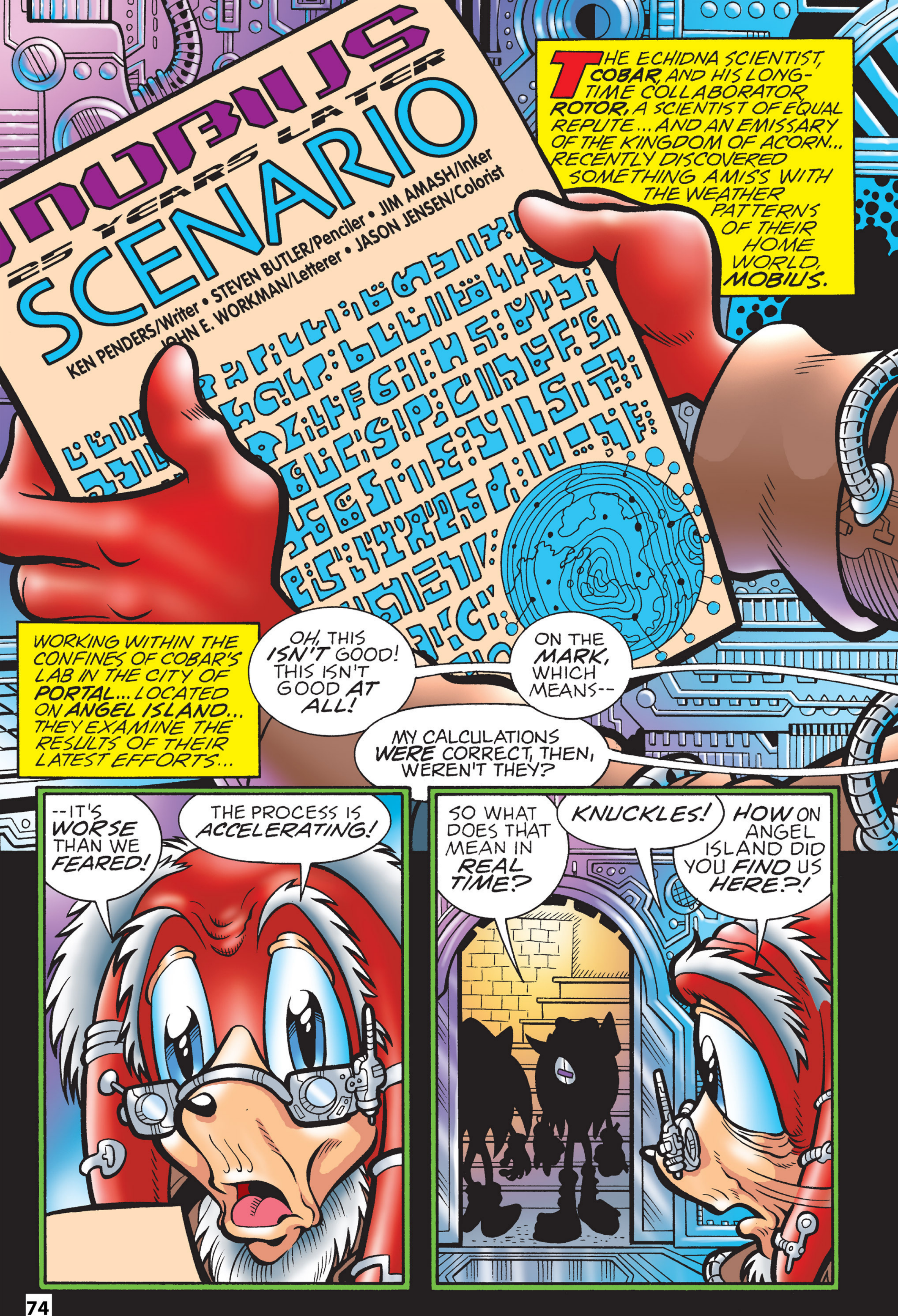

EVEN THOUGH THOSE TWO HAVE NEVER BEEN THE BEST OF FRIENDS--
--I HOPE THEY'RE ABLE TO WORK THIS OUT!
--I PRAY THEY'RE ABLE TO WORK THIS OUT!
SO, WHAT'S EATING YOU?
I SAID MY PIECE OVER DINNER!
YOU REALLY BELIEVE WHAT ROTOR TOLD YOU?
LET'S JUST SAY I DON'T DISBELIEVE!
THEN WHY SOUND THE ALARM?
BECAUSE, WHEN SOMEONE I KNOW TELLS ME THE WORLD MIGHT BE COMING TO AN END--
--I LISTEN!
"MIGHT BE" DOESN'T MEAN "IT WILL"!
YEAH, WELL, CONSIDERING ROTOR'S AND COBAR'S TRACK RECORDS--
--"IT WILL" IS THE SAFER BET!
HARD TO ARGUE WITH THAT!
SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE US?

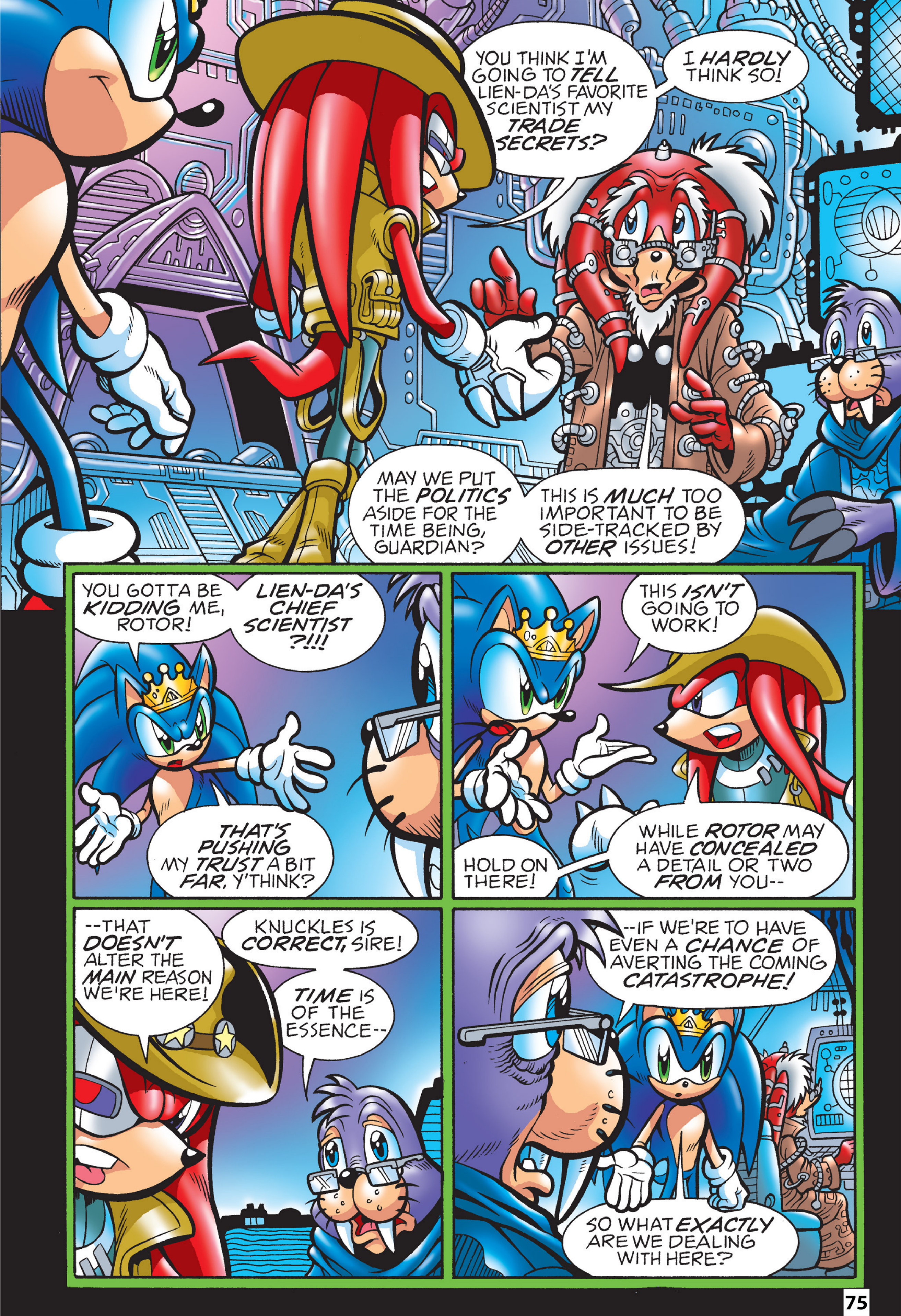

BEATS ME!
WE'RE TALKING *FORCES OF NATURE* HERE!
MAYBE SOMETHING EVEN *BEYOND* THAT!
LIKE *YOU* WERE *ONCE?*
WITH YOUR *CHAOS POWERS?*
MAYBE STILL *ARE?*
"GRANTED, IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT WHEN **ROBOTNIK** STOLE THE **CHAOS EMERALD**--"
WHAT DO I *CARE* ABOUT SOME *WORTHLESS* HUNK OF *ROCK*--
--WHEN I NOW POSSESS THE *POWER* TO BE *MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE!*
NO!
"--IT TRIGGERED A **CHANGE** IN YOU--
"--RESULTING IN YOU BECOMING A **LIVING CHAOS EMERALD** ONCE **AGAIN**..."
ANGEL ISLAND WOULD HAVE BEEN *DESTROYED* IF I HADN'T!
I KNOW!
IT WAS A *TOUGH* CALL, BUT--

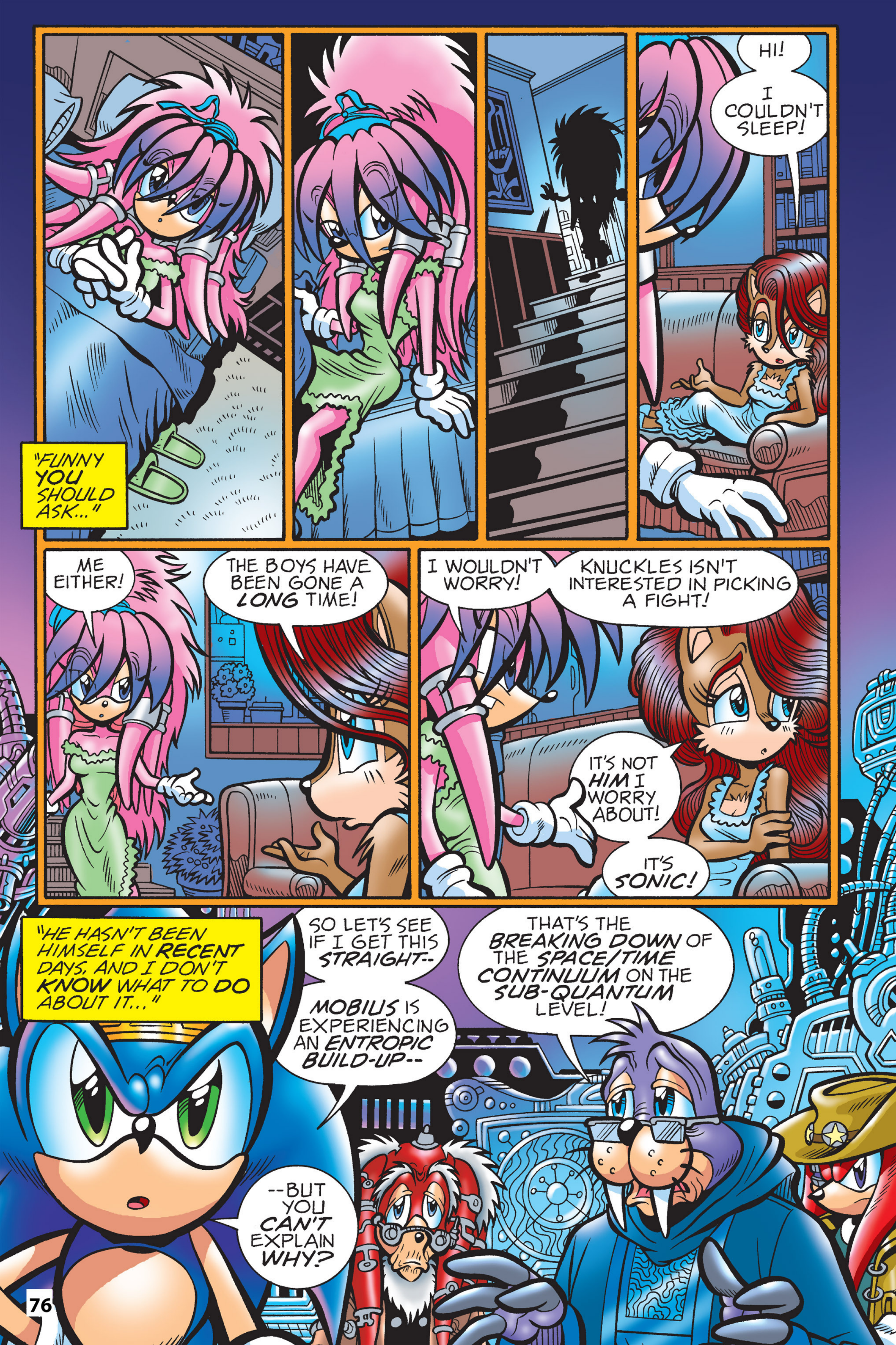

"--YOU DIDN'T JUST SAVE THE ISLAND AND TAKE DOWN ROBOTNIK--
"--YOU THEN DECIDED ...ON YOUR OWN...TO *REMAKE* MOBIUS AS *YOU* THOUGHT IT SHOULD BE--"
--WHICH MAKES ME *WONDER* IF *YOU* DIDN'T KICK OFF THE CURRENT CHAIN OF EVENTS WHEN YOU PULLED THAT STUNT!
IF ANYONE ACTED *STUPID* AT THE TIME, IT WAS *YOU!*
ME? YEAH, RIGHT!
YEAH, *YOU* DECIDING I WAS SOME KIND OF *THREAT*--AND ATTEMPTING TO USE SOME *GADGET* YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND...
YOU ONLY GET *ONE WARNING,* CHAMP--
--BEFORE I PRESS THIS BUTTO--
KA-BLAAM!

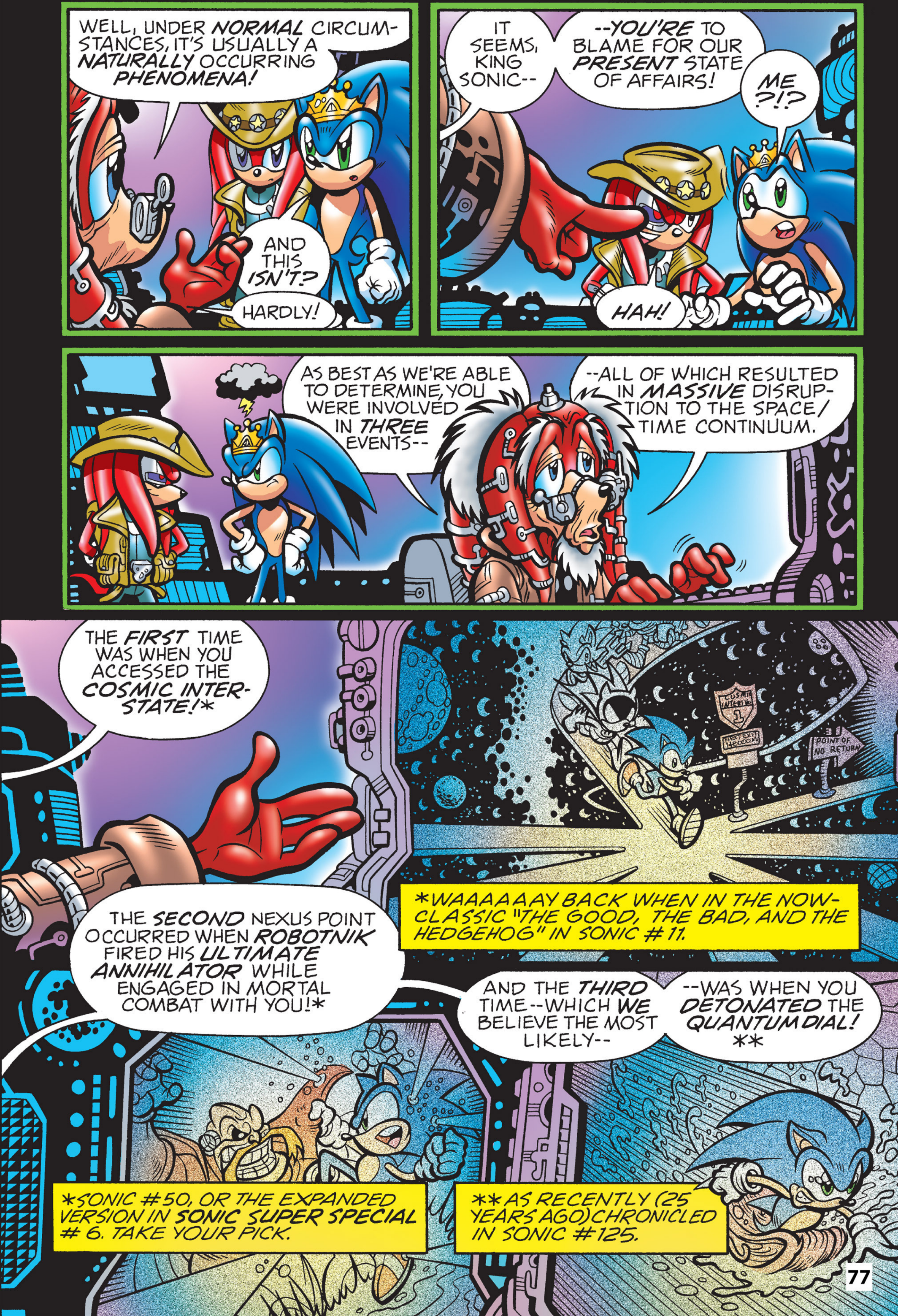

WHAT HAPPENED --?
I'M NOT SURE--
--BUT SOMEHOW THE *NULLIFIER* WENT OFF *PREMATURELY!*
AND *KNUCKLES* --?
HE'S OVER *HERE!*
HE'S *RED* AGAIN, BUT IS HE--
KNUCKLES, ARE YOU--
YOU *COST* ME MY *EYE!*
I'D STILL FEEL *GUILTY* IF I DIDN'T KNOW THE DOCS COULD REPLACE THAT *EYEPIECE* WITH A *REAL EYE* ANYTIME YOU WANT!
THAT'S A *PERSONAL* CHOICE AFTER THE FACT!
YOU'RE *EVADING* MY *POINT!*
OUR *CURRENT* PROBLEMS COULD ALL BE DUE TO *YOUR* ACTIONS *WAY BACK WHEN!*
AND IF THAT'S SO, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO *FIX THIS!*

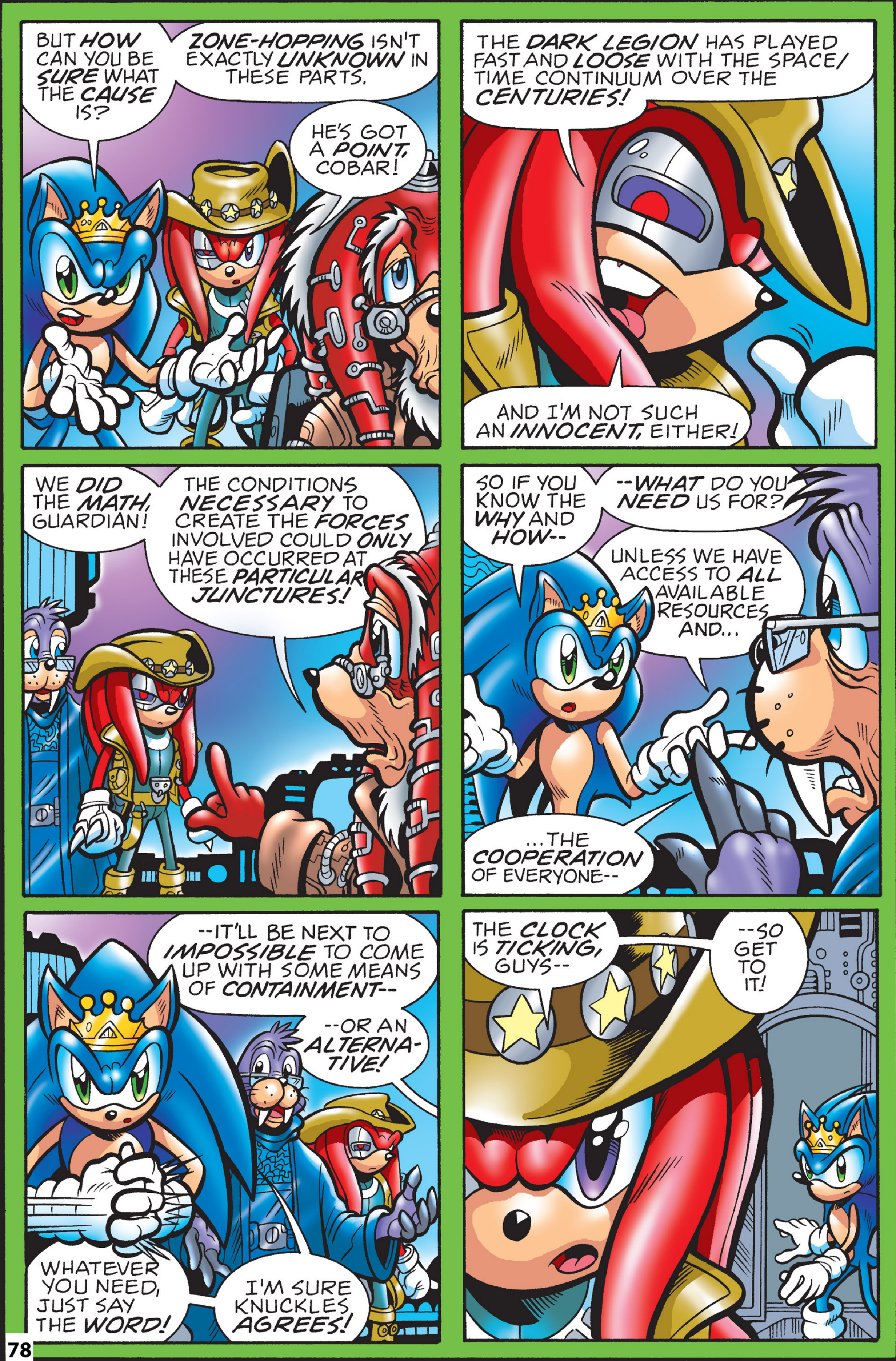

JUST LIKE *THAT?*
PRETTY MUCH!
AND IF I *DON'T* STILL HAVE THE *POWER,* THEN *WHAT?*
IS IT MORE IMPORTANT FOR *HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS* TO ASSIGN *BLAME*--
--THAN TO *FIND* A *SOLUTION* TO THE *PROBLEM?*
NO!
THIS IS A *TOUGHER NUT* THAN EITHER OF US CAN *CRACK* ON OUR OWN!
SO... *ANY* IDEAS?
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE HEDGEHOG I'VE *ALWAYS KNOWN!*
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO *HIM?*
GOOD QUESTION!
I WISH I KNEW.
TO BE CONTINUED..

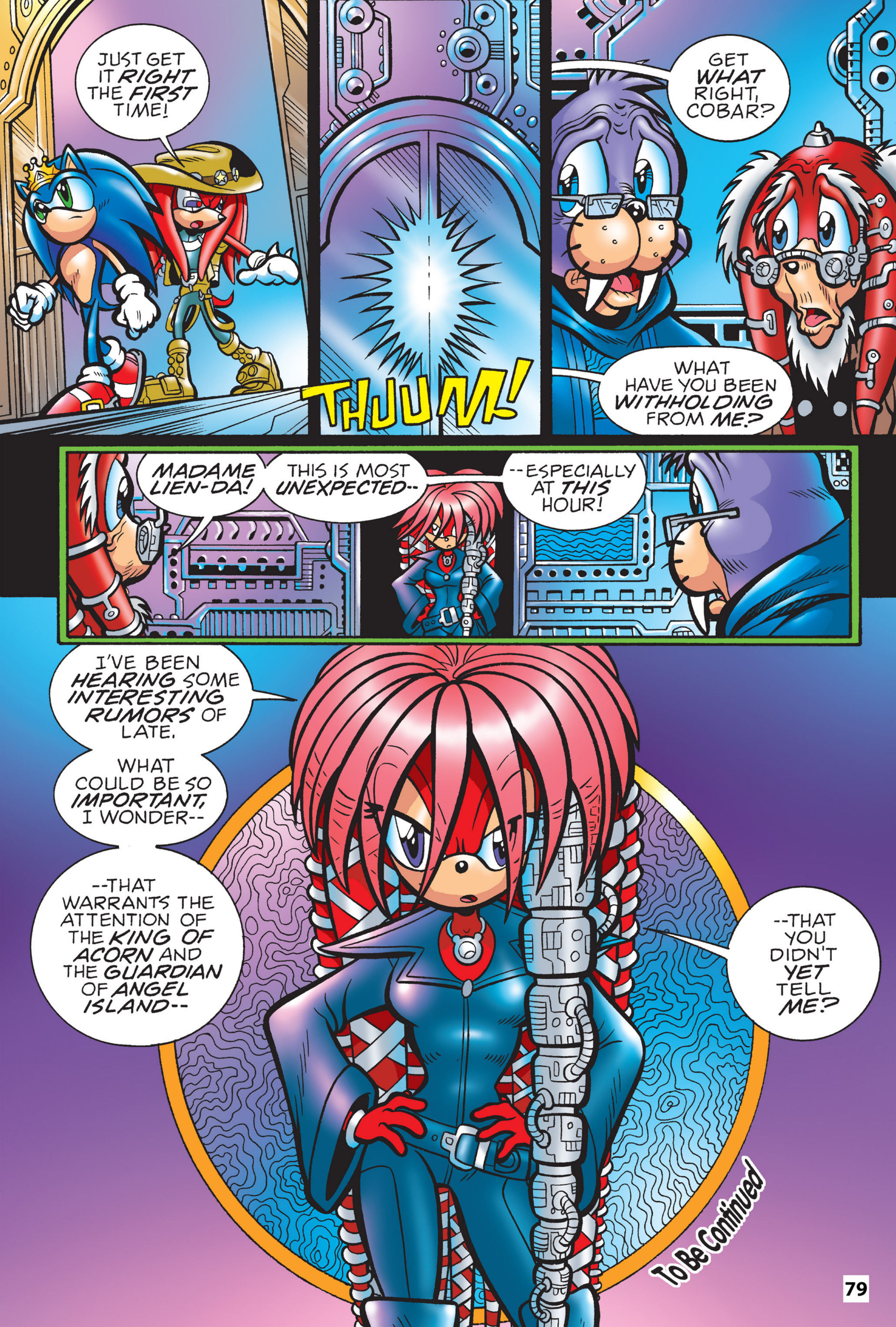

MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER
SCENARIO
KEN PENDERS/Writer • STEVEN BUTLER/Penciler • JIM AMASH/Inker
JOHN E. WORKMAN/Letterer • JASON JENSEN/Colorist
THE ECHIDNA SCIENTIST, COBAR, AND HIS LONG-TIME COLLABORATOR ROTOR, A SCIENTIST OF EQUAL REPUTE... AND AN EMISSARY OF THE KINGDOM OF ACORN... RECENTLY DISCOVERED SOMETHING AMISS WITH THE WEATHER PATTERNS OF THEIR HOME WORLD, MOBIUS.
WORKING WITHIN THE CONFINES OF COBAR'S LAB IN THE CITY OF PORTAL... LOCATED ON ANGEL ISLAND... THEY EXAMINE THE RESULTS OF THEIR LATEST EFFORTS...
OH, THIS ISN'T GOOD! THIS ISN'T GOOD AT ALL!
ON THE MARK, WHICH MEANS--
MY CALCULATIONS WERE CORRECT, THEN, WEREN'T THEY?
--IT'S WORSE THAN WE FEARED!
THE PROCESS IS ACCELERATING!
SO WHAT DOES THAT MEAN IN REAL TIME?
KNUCKLES!
HOW ON ANGEL ISLAND DID YOU FIND US HERE?!

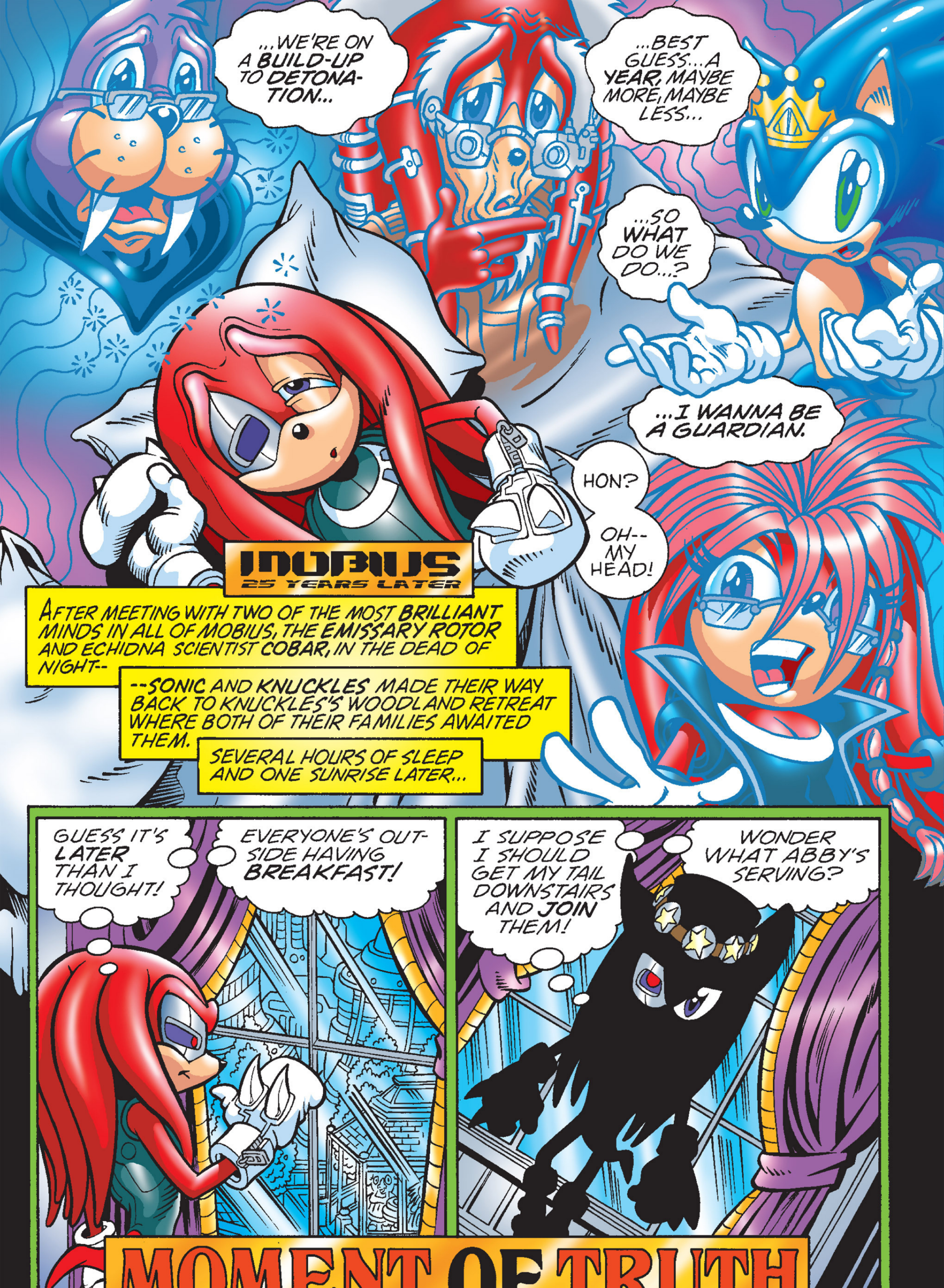

YOU THINK I'M GOING TO *TELL* LIEN-DA'S FAVORITE SCIENTIST MY *TRADE SECRETS?*
I *HARDLY* THINK SO!
MAY WE PUT THE *POLITICS* ASIDE FOR THE TIME BEING, GUARDIAN?
THIS IS *MUCH* TOO IMPORTANT TO BE SIDE-TRACKED BY *OTHER* ISSUES!
YOU GOTTA BE *KIDDING* ME, ROTOR!
LIEN-DA'S CHIEF SCIENTIST ?!!!
THAT'S PUSHING MY *TRUST* A BIT *FAR,* Y'THINK?
THIS *ISN'T* GOING TO WORK!
HOLD ON THERE!
WHILE *ROTOR* MAY HAVE *CONCEALED* A DETAIL OR TWO *FROM* YOU--
--THAT *DOESN'T* ALTER THE *MAIN* REASON WE'RE HERE!
KNUCKLES IS *CORRECT,* SIRE!
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE--
--IF WE'RE TO HAVE EVEN A *CHANCE* OF AVERTING THE COMING *CATASTROPHE!*
SO WHAT *EXACTLY* ARE WE DEALING WITH HERE?


"FUNNY YOU SHOULD ASK..."
HI!
I COULDN'T SLEEP!
ME EITHER!
THE BOYS HAVE BEEN GONE A LONG TIME!
I WOULDN'T WORRY!
KNUCKLES ISN'T INTERESTED IN PICKING A FIGHT!
IT'S NOT HIM I WORRY ABOUT!
IT'S SONIC!
"HE HASN'T BEEN HIMSELF IN RECENT DAYS, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT..."
SO LET'S SEE IF I GET THIS STRAIGHT--
MOBIUS IS EXPERIENCING AN ENTROPIC BUILD-UP--
THAT'S THE BREAKING DOWN OF THE SPACE/TIME CONTINUUM ON THE SUB-QUANTUM LEVEL!
--BUT YOU CAN'T EXPLAIN WHY?

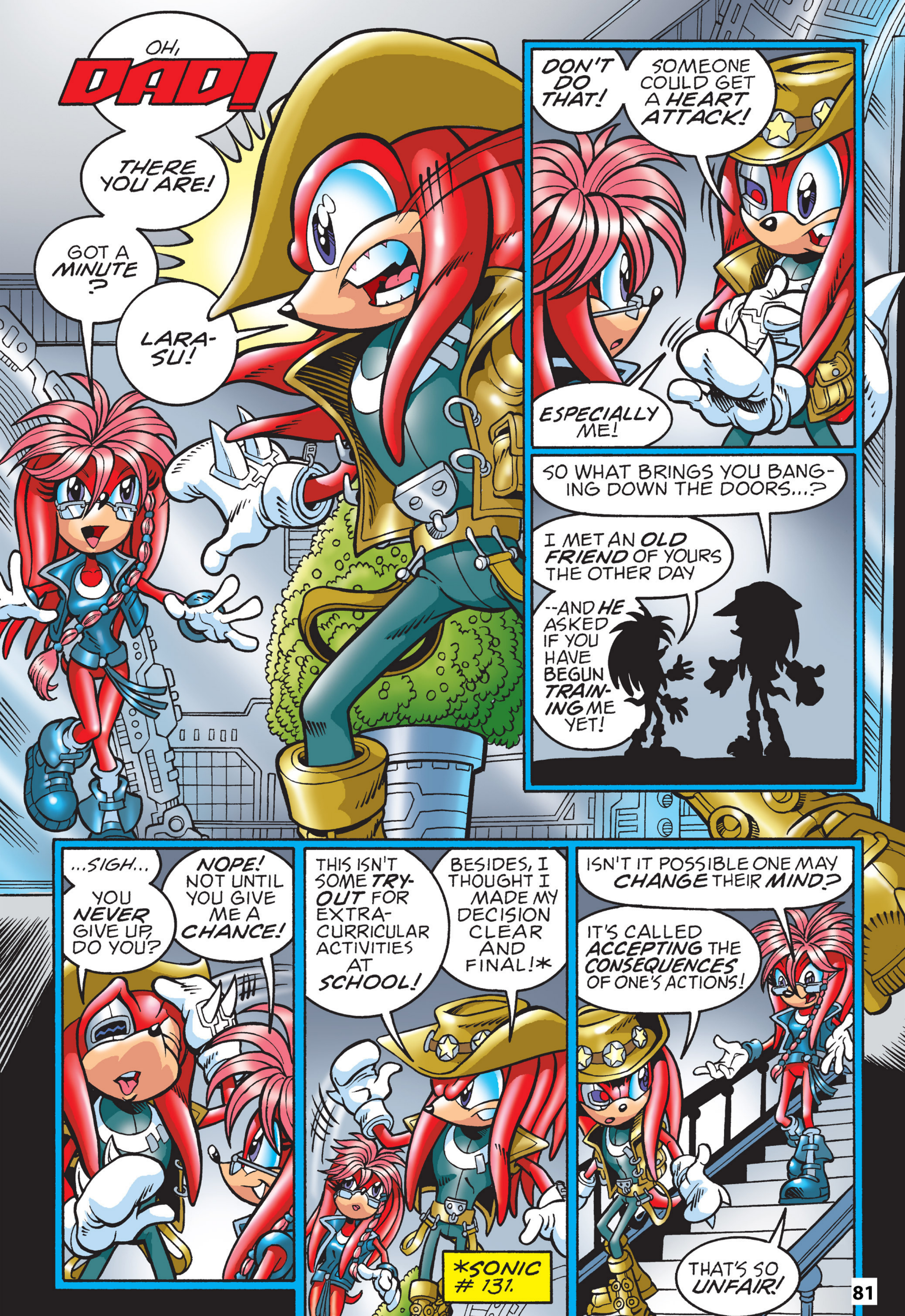

WELL, UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, IT'S USUALLY A NATURALLY OCCURRING PHENOMENA!
AND THIS ISN'T?
HARDLY!
IT SEEMS, KING SONIC--
--YOU'RE TO BLAME FOR OUR PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS!
ME?!?
HAH!
AS BEST AS WE'RE ABLE TO DETERMINE, YOU WERE INVOLVED IN THREE EVENTS--
--ALL OF WHICH RESULTED IN MASSIVE DISRUPTION TO THE SPACE/TIME CONTINUUM.
THE FIRST TIME WAS WHEN YOU ACCESSED THE COSMIC INTERSTATE!*
COSMIC INTERSTATE 1
NEXT EXIT
POINT OF NO RETURN
*WAAAAAAY BACK WHEN IN THE NOW-CLASSIC "THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE HEDGEHOG" IN SONIC #11.
THE SECOND NEXUS POINT OCCURRED WHEN ROBOTNIK FIRED HIS ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR WHILE ENGAGED IN MORTAL COMBAT WITH YOU!*
AND THE THIRD TIME--WHICH WE BELIEVE THE MOST LIKELY--
--WAS WHEN YOU DETONATED THE QUANTUM DIAL! **
*SONIC #50, OR THE EXPANDED VERSION IN SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #6. TAKE YOUR PICK.
**AS RECENTLY (25 YEARS AGO) CHRONICLED IN SONIC #125.

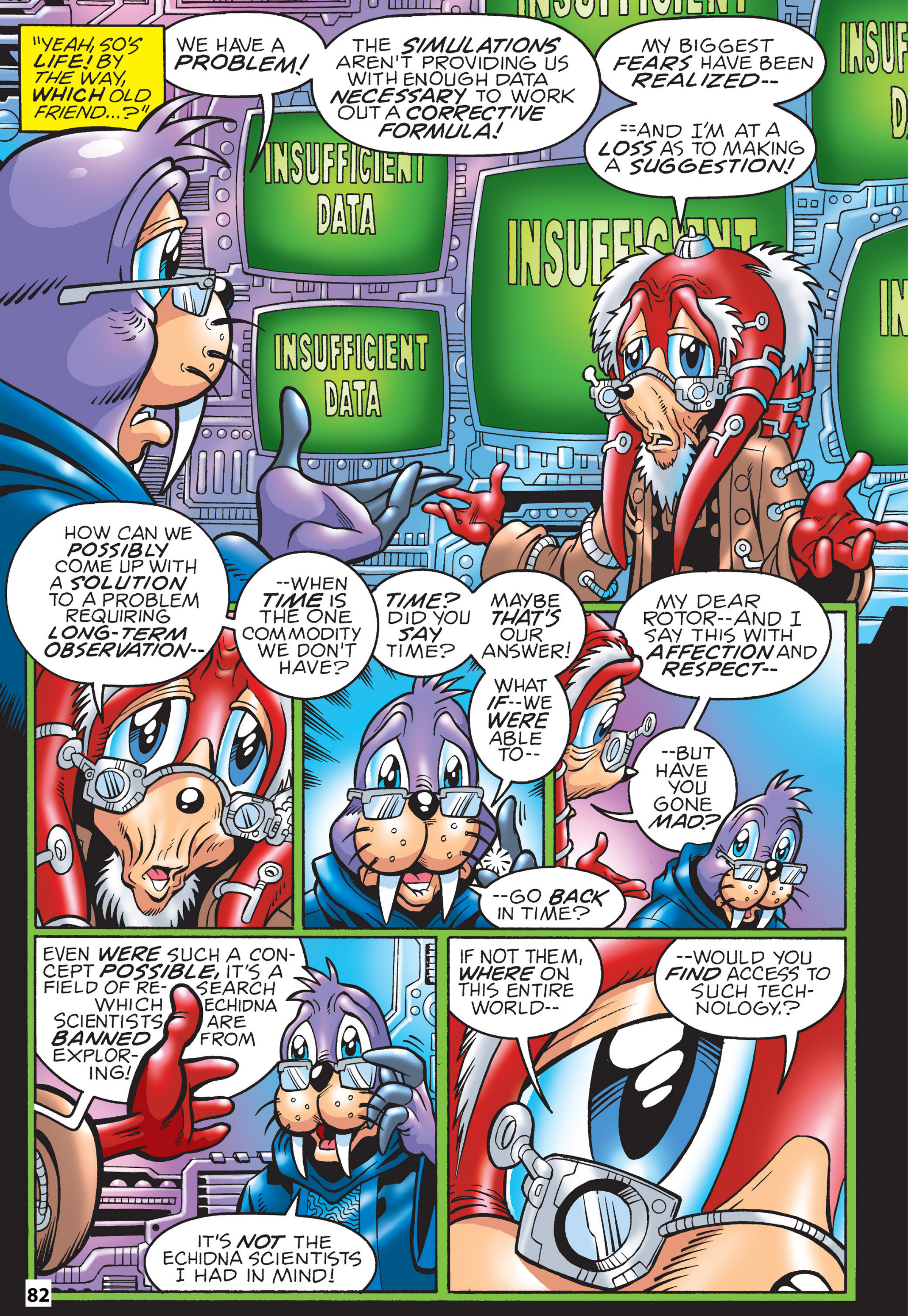

BUT *HOW* CAN YOU BE *SURE* WHAT THE *CAUSE* IS?
ZONE-HOPPING ISN'T EXACTLY *UNKNOWN* IN THESE PARTS.
HE'S GOT A *POINT,* COBAR!
THE *DARK LEGION* HAS PLAYED FAST AND *LOOSE* WITH THE SPACE/TIME CONTINUUM OVER THE *CENTURIES!*
AND I'M NOT SUCH AN *INNOCENT,* EITHER!
WE *DID* THE *MATH,* GUARDIAN!
THE CONDITIONS *NECESSARY* TO CREATE THE *FORCES* INVOLVED COULD *ONLY* HAVE OCCURRED AT THESE *PARTICULAR JUNCTURES!*
SO IF YOU KNOW THE *WHY* AND *HOW--*
--*WHAT* DO YOU *NEED* US FOR?
UNLESS WE HAVE ACCESS TO *ALL* AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND...
...THE *COOPERATION* OF EVERYONE--
--IT'LL BE NEXT TO *IMPOSSIBLE* TO COME UP WITH SOME MEANS OF *CONTAINMENT--*
--OR AN *ALTERNATIVE!*
WHATEVER YOU NEED, JUST SAY THE *WORD!*
I'M SURE KNUCKLES *AGREES!*
THE *CLOCK* IS *TICKING,* GUYS--
--SO GET TO IT!

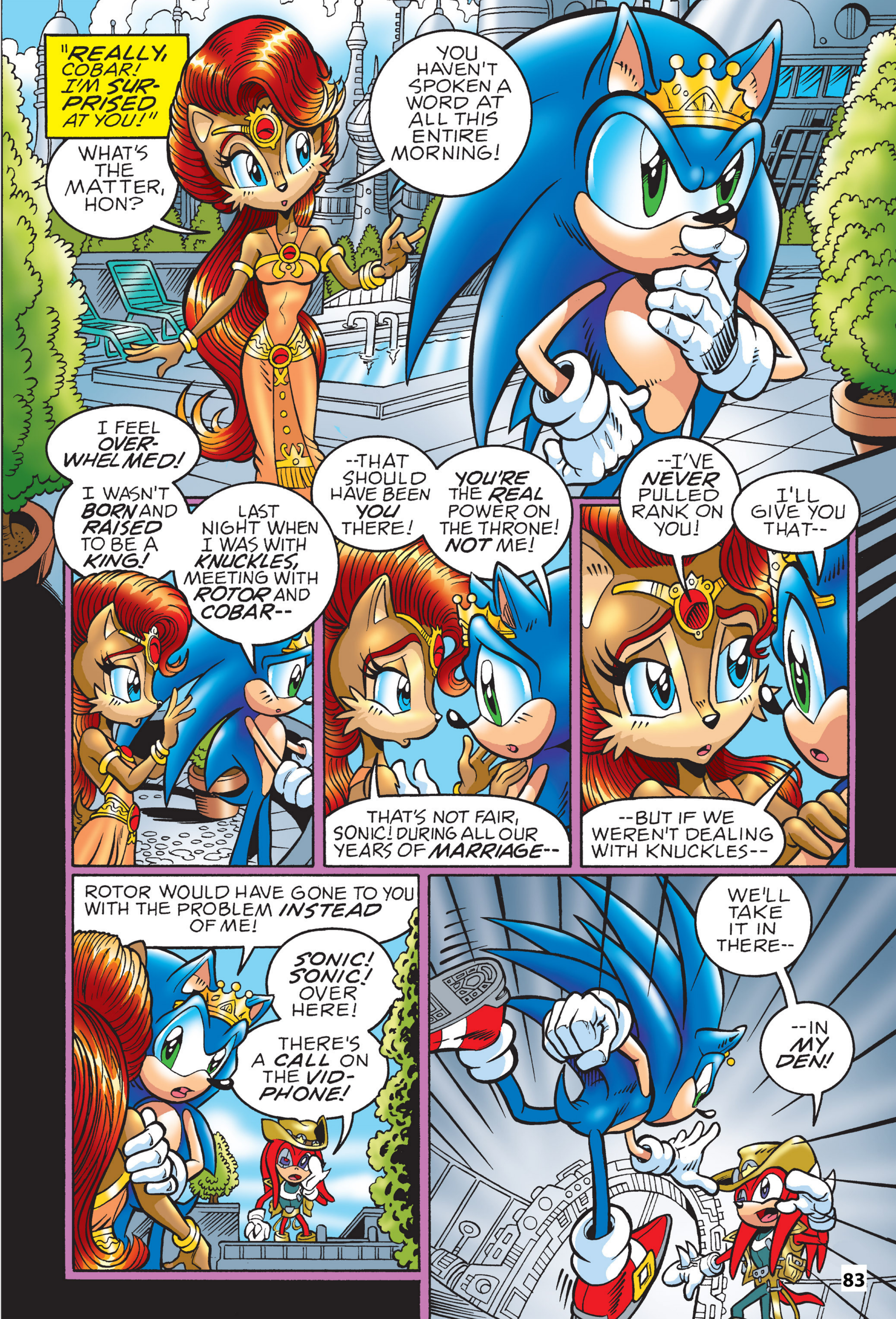

JUST GET IT *RIGHT* THE *FIRST* TIME!
THJUUM!
GET *WHAT* RIGHT, COBAR?
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN *WITHHOLDING* FROM *ME?*
MADAME LIEN-DA!
THIS IS MOST *UNEXPECTED*--
--ESPECIALLY AT *THIS* HOUR!
I'VE BEEN *HEARING* SOME *INTERESTING RUMORS* OF LATE.
WHAT COULD BE SO *IMPORTANT,* I WONDER--
--THAT WARRANTS THE ATTENTION OF THE *KING OF ACORN* AND THE *GUARDIAN* OF *ANGEL ISLAND*--
--THAT YOU DIDN'T *YET* TELL *ME?*
To Be Continued

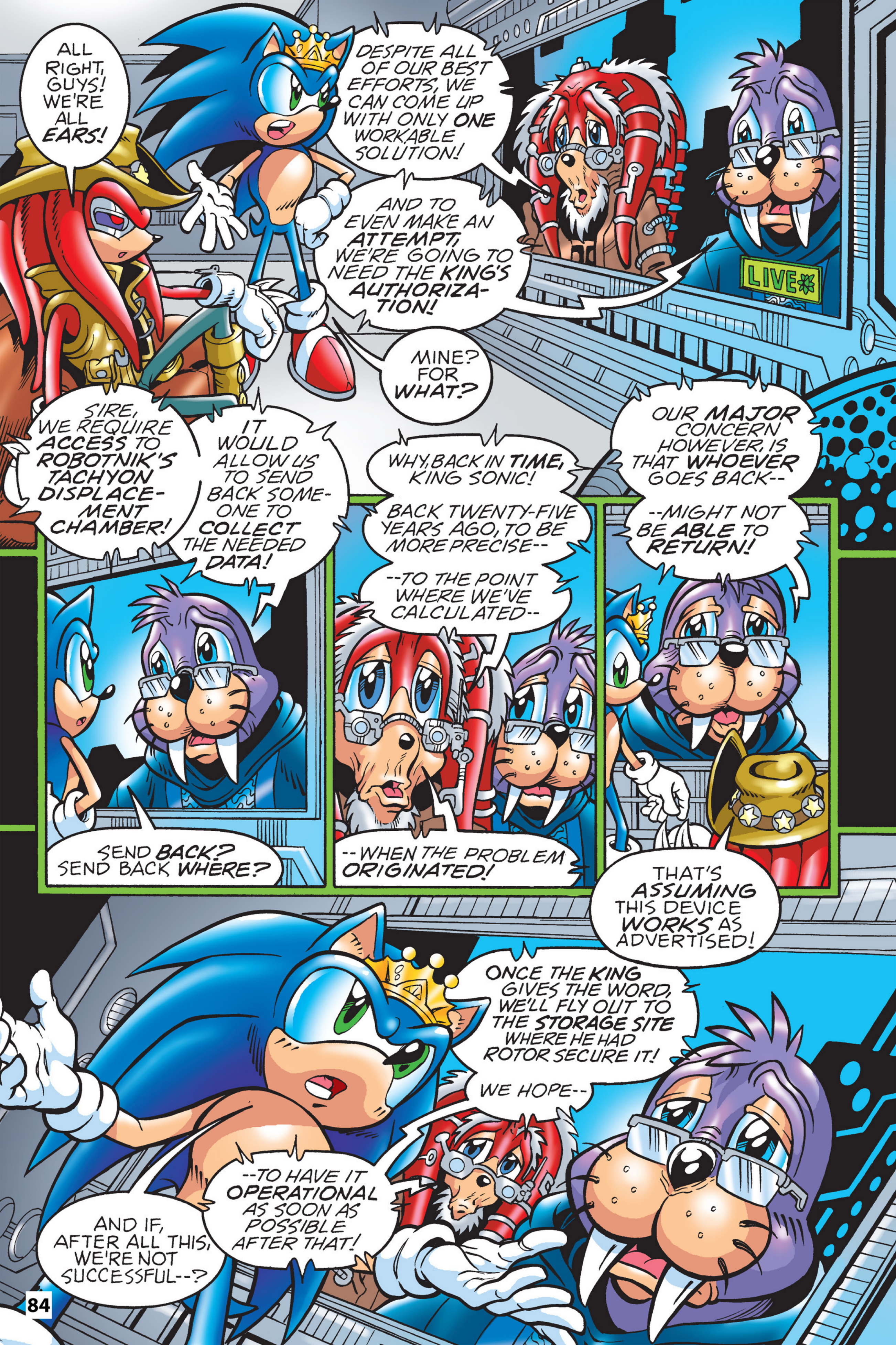

...WE'RE ON A BUILD-UP TO DETONATION...
...BEST GUESS...A YEAR, MAYBE MORE, MAYBE LESS...
...SO WHAT DO WE DO...?
...I WANNA BE A GUARDIAN.
HON?
OH-- MY HEAD!
MOBIUS 25 YEARS LATER
AFTER MEETING WITH TWO OF THE MOST BRILLIANT MINDS IN ALL OF MOBIUS, THE EMISSARY ROTOR AND ECHIDNA SCIENTIST COBAR, IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT--
--SONIC AND KNUCKLES MADE THEIR WAY BACK TO KNUCKLES'S WOODLAND RETREAT WHERE BOTH OF THEIR FAMILIES AWAITED THEM.
SEVERAL HOURS OF SLEEP AND ONE SUNRISE LATER...
GUESS IT'S LATER THAN I THOUGHT!
EVERYONE'S OUTSIDE HAVING BREAKFAST!
I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GET MY TAIL DOWNSTAIRS AND JOIN THEM!
WONDER WHAT ABBY'S SERVING?
MOMENT OF TRUTH

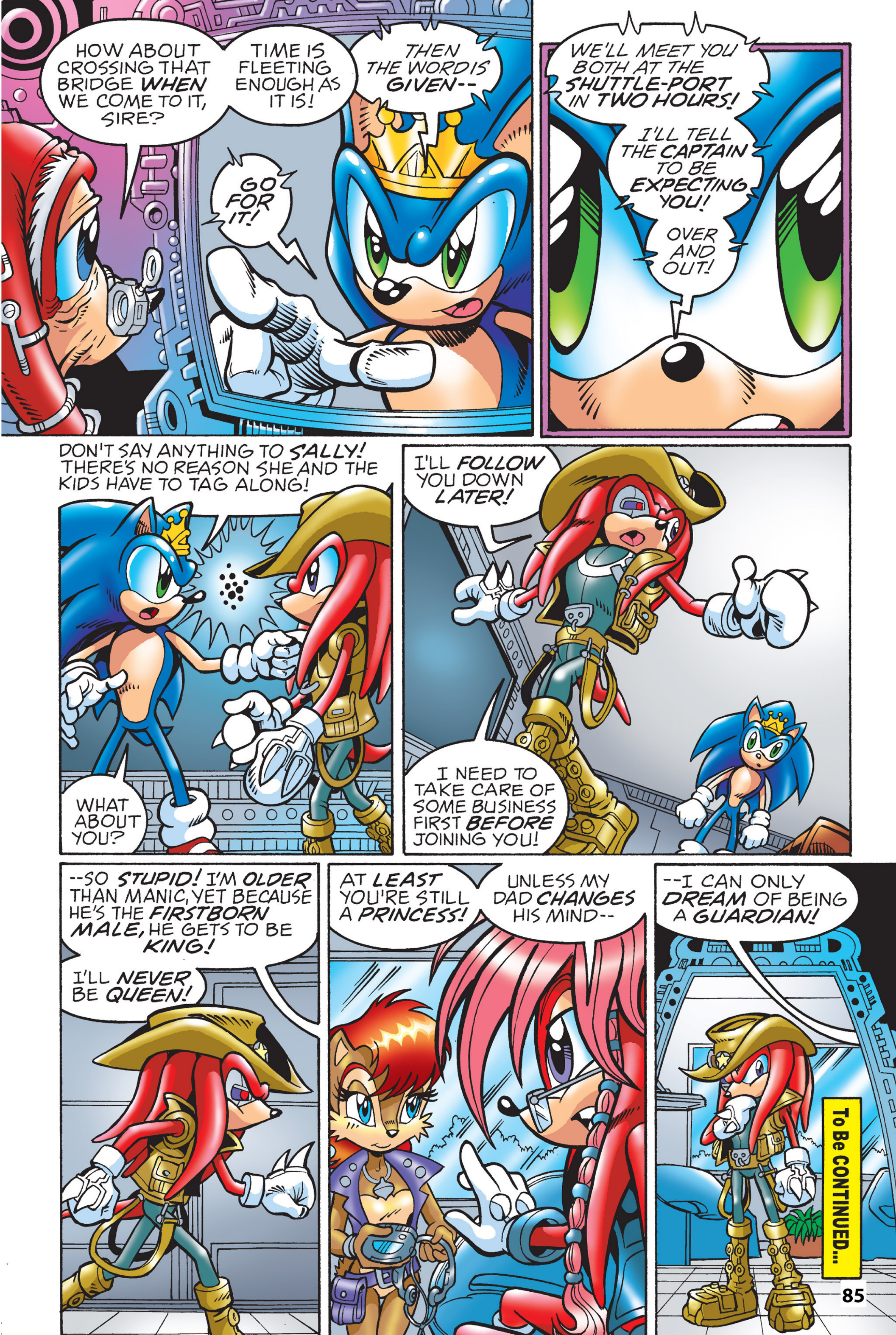
Ken PENDERS•Writer/Inker Steven BUTLER•Penciler
John E. WORKMAN•Letterer Jason JENSEN•Colorist


OH, DAD!
THERE YOU ARE!
GOT A MINUTE?
LARA-SU!
DON'T DO THAT!
SOMEONE COULD GET A HEART ATTACK!
ESPECIALLY ME!
SO WHAT BRINGS YOU BANGING DOWN THE DOORS...?
I MET AN OLD FRIEND OF YOURS THE OTHER DAY
--AND HE ASKED IF YOU HAVE BEGUN TRAINING ME YET!
...SIGH...
YOU NEVER GIVE UP, DO YOU?
NOPE! NOT UNTIL YOU GIVE ME A CHANCE!
THIS ISN'T SOME TRY-OUT FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL!
BESIDES, I THOUGHT I MADE MY DECISION CLEAR AND FINAL!*
*SONIC # 131.
ISN'T IT POSSIBLE ONE MAY CHANGE THEIR MIND?
IT'S CALLED ACCEPTING THE CONSEQUENCES OF ONE'S ACTIONS!
THAT'S SO UNFAIR!


"YEAH, SO'S LIFE! BY THE WAY, WHICH OLD FRIEND...?"
WE HAVE A PROBLEM!
THE SIMULATIONS AREN'T PROVIDING US WITH ENOUGH DATA NECESSARY TO WORK OUT A CORRECTIVE FORMULA!
MY BIGGEST FEARS HAVE BEEN REALIZED--
==AND I'M AT A LOSS AS TO MAKING A SUGGESTION!
INSUFFICIENT DATA
INSUFFICIENT DATA
INSUFFICIENT DATA
HOW CAN WE POSSIBLY COME UP WITH A SOLUTION TO A PROBLEM REQUIRING LONG-TERM OBSERVATION--
--WHEN TIME IS THE ONE COMMODITY WE DON'T HAVE?
TIME? DID YOU SAY TIME?
MAYBE THAT'S OUR ANSWER!
WHAT IF--WE WERE ABLE TO--
--GO BACK IN TIME?
MY DEAR ROTOR--AND I SAY THIS WITH AFFECTION AND RESPECT--
--BUT HAVE YOU GONE MAD?
EVEN WERE SUCH A CONCEPT POSSIBLE, IT'S A FIELD OF RESEARCH WHICH ECHIDNA SCIENTISTS ARE BANNED FROM EXPLORING!
IT'S NOT THE ECHIDNA SCIENTISTS I HAD IN MIND!
IF NOT THEM, WHERE ON THIS ENTIRE WORLD--
--WOULD YOU FIND ACCESS TO SUCH TECHNOLOGY?


"REALLY, COBAR! I'M SURPRISED AT YOU!"
WHAT'S THE MATTER, HON?
YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN A WORD AT ALL THIS ENTIRE MORNING!
I FEEL OVERWHELMED!
I WASN'T BORN AND RAISED TO BE A KING!
LAST NIGHT WHEN I WAS WITH KNUCKLES, MEETING WITH ROTOR AND COBAR--
--THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN YOU THERE!
YOU'RE THE REAL POWER ON THE THRONE! NOT ME!
THAT'S NOT FAIR, SONIC! DURING ALL OUR YEARS OF MARRIAGE--
--I'VE NEVER PULLED RANK ON YOU!
I'LL GIVE YOU THAT--
--BUT IF WE WEREN'T DEALING WITH KNUCKLES--
ROTOR WOULD HAVE GONE TO YOU WITH THE PROBLEM INSTEAD OF ME!
SONIC! SONIC! OVER HERE!
THERE'S A CALL ON THE VIDPHONE!
WE'LL TAKE IT IN THERE--
--IN MY DEN!


ALL RIGHT, GUYS! WE'RE ALL **EARS!**
DESPITE ALL OF OUR BEST EFFORTS, WE CAN COME UP WITH ONLY **ONE** WORKABLE SOLUTION!
AND TO EVEN MAKE AN **ATTEMPT,** WE'RE GOING TO NEED THE **KING'S AUTHORIZATION!**
LIVE
MINE? FOR **WHAT?**
SIRE, WE REQUIRE **ACCESS** TO **ROBOTNIK'S TACHYON DISPLACEMENT CHAMBER!**
IT WOULD ALLOW US TO SEND BACK SOMEONE TO **COLLECT** THE NEEDED **DATA!**
SEND **BACK?** SEND BACK **WHERE?**
WHY, BACK IN **TIME,** KING SONIC!
BACK TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, TO BE MORE PRECISE--
--TO THE POINT WHERE WE'VE CALCULATED--
--WHEN THE PROBLEM **ORIGINATED!**
OUR **MAJOR** CONCERN HOWEVER, IS THAT **WHOEVER** GOES BACK--
--MIGHT NOT BE **ABLE** TO **RETURN!**
THAT'S **ASSUMING** THIS DEVICE **WORKS** AS ADVERTISED!
ONCE THE **KING** GIVES THE WORD, WE'LL FLY OUT TO THE **STORAGE SITE** WHERE HE HAD ROTOR SECURE IT!
WE HOPE--
--TO HAVE IT **OPERATIONAL** AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THAT!
AND IF, AFTER ALL THIS, WE'RE NOT SUCCESSFUL--?

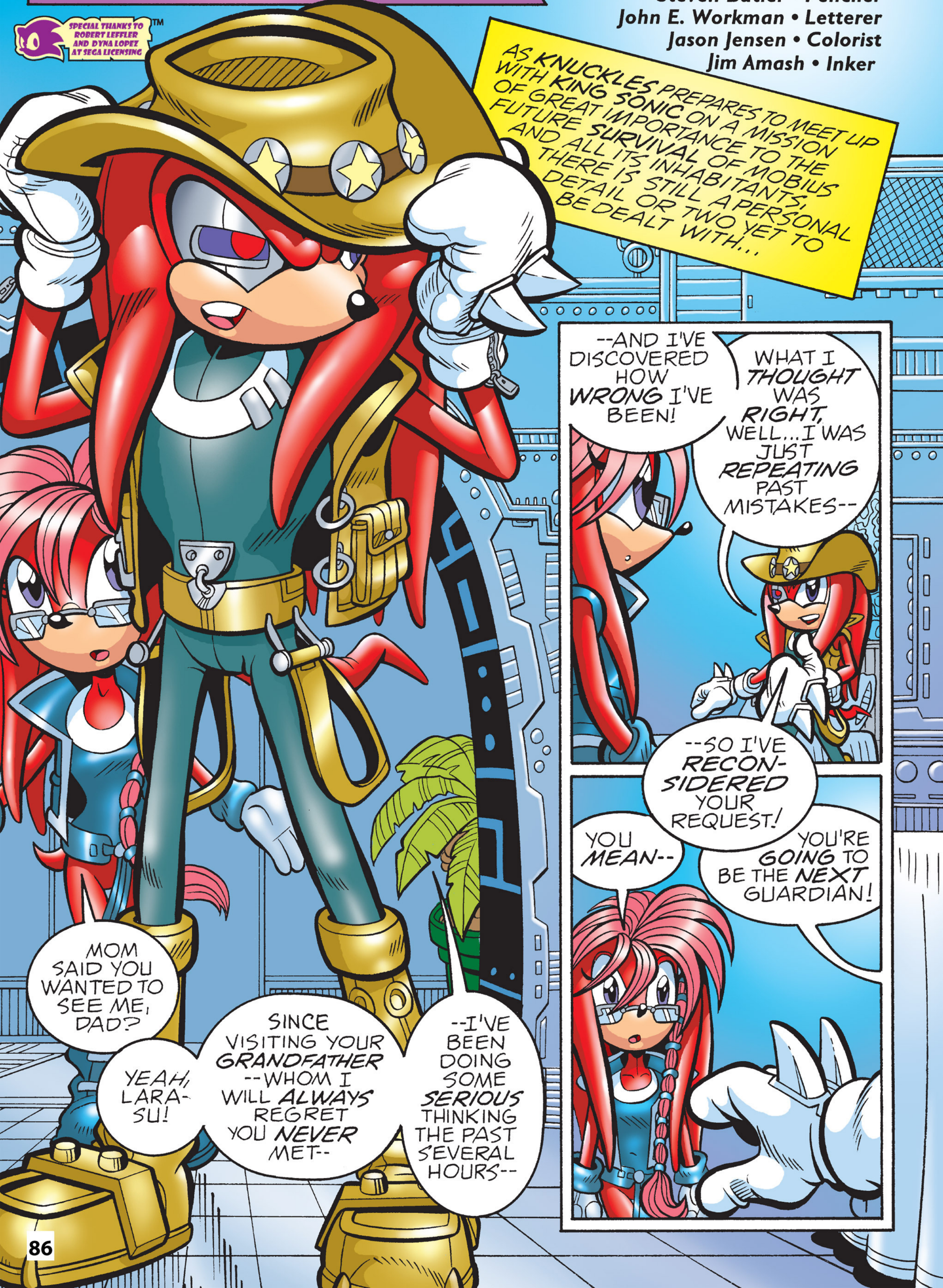

HOW ABOUT CROSSING THAT BRIDGE *WHEN* WE COME TO IT, SIRE?
TIME IS FLEETING ENOUGH AS IT IS!
THEN THE WORD IS ***GIVEN--***
GO FOR IT!
WE'LL MEET YOU BOTH AT THE ***SHUTTLE-PORT*** *IN* ***TWO HOURS!***
I'LL TELL THE ***CAPTAIN*** *TO BE* ***EXPECTING*** *YOU!*
OVER AND OUT!
DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO ***SALLY!*** THERE'S NO REASON SHE AND THE KIDS HAVE TO TAG ALONG!
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I'LL ***FOLLOW*** YOU DOWN ***LATER!***
I NEED TO TAKE CARE OF SOME BUSINESS FIRST ***BEFORE*** JOINING YOU!
--SO ***STUPID!*** I'M ***OLDER*** THAN MANIC, YET BECAUSE HE'S THE ***FIRSTBORN MALE,*** HE GETS TO BE ***KING!***
I'LL ***NEVER*** BE ***QUEEN!***
AT ***LEAST*** YOU'RE STILL A ***PRINCESS!***
UNLESS MY DAD ***CHANGES*** HIS MIND--
--I CAN ONLY ***DREAM*** OF BEING A ***GUARDIAN!***
To Be CONTINUED...

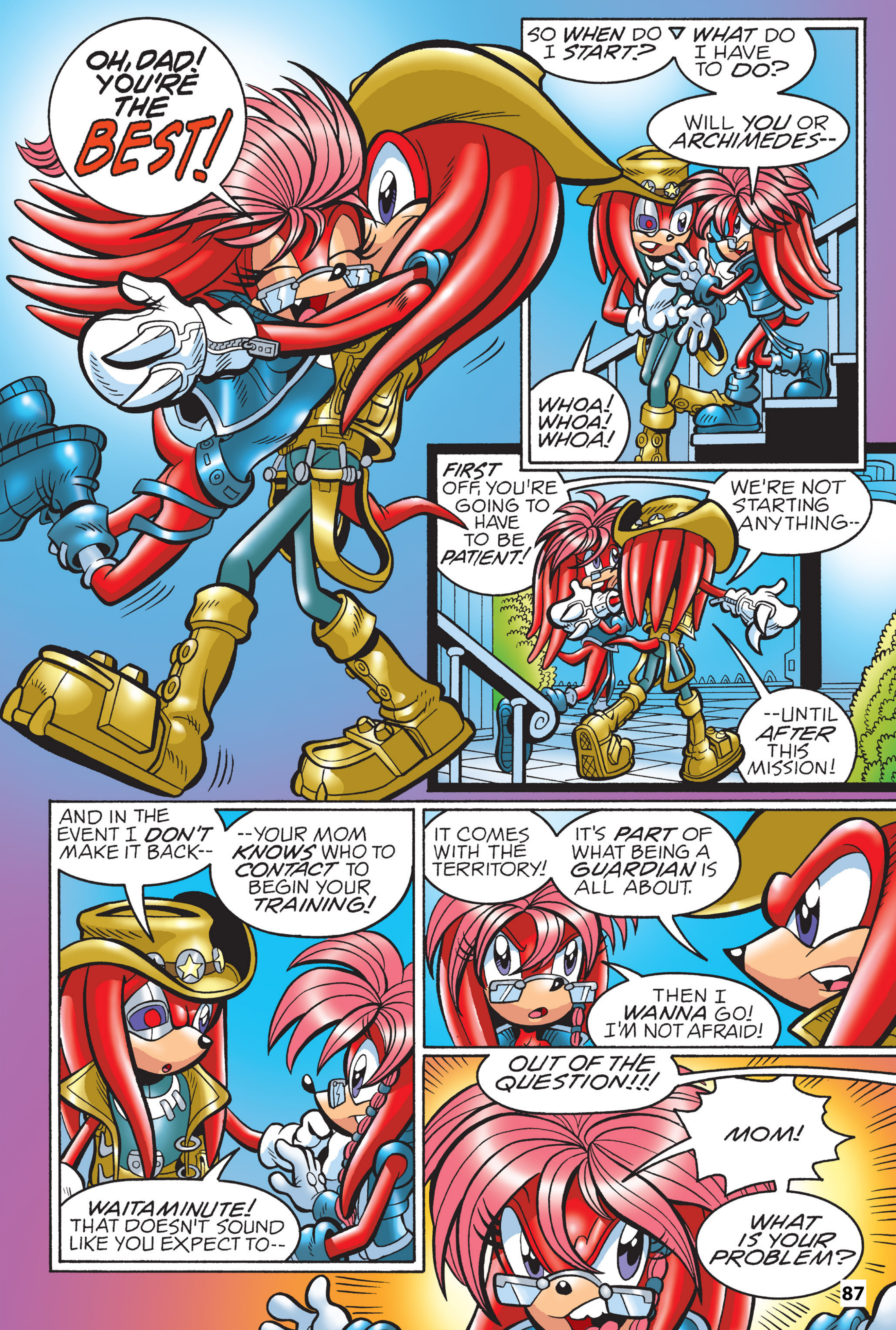
MOBIUS
25 YEARS LATER

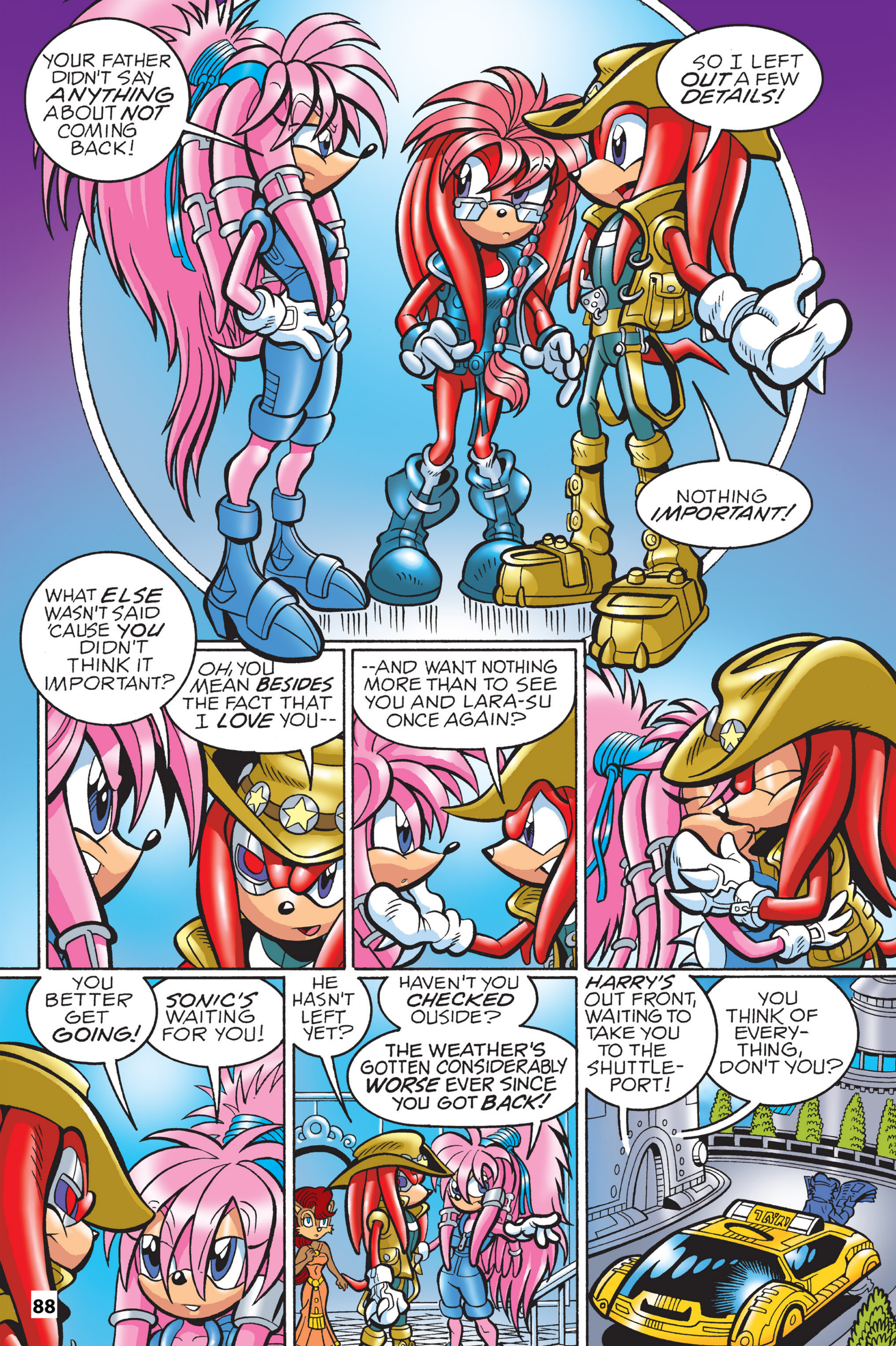
THE DIE IS CAST

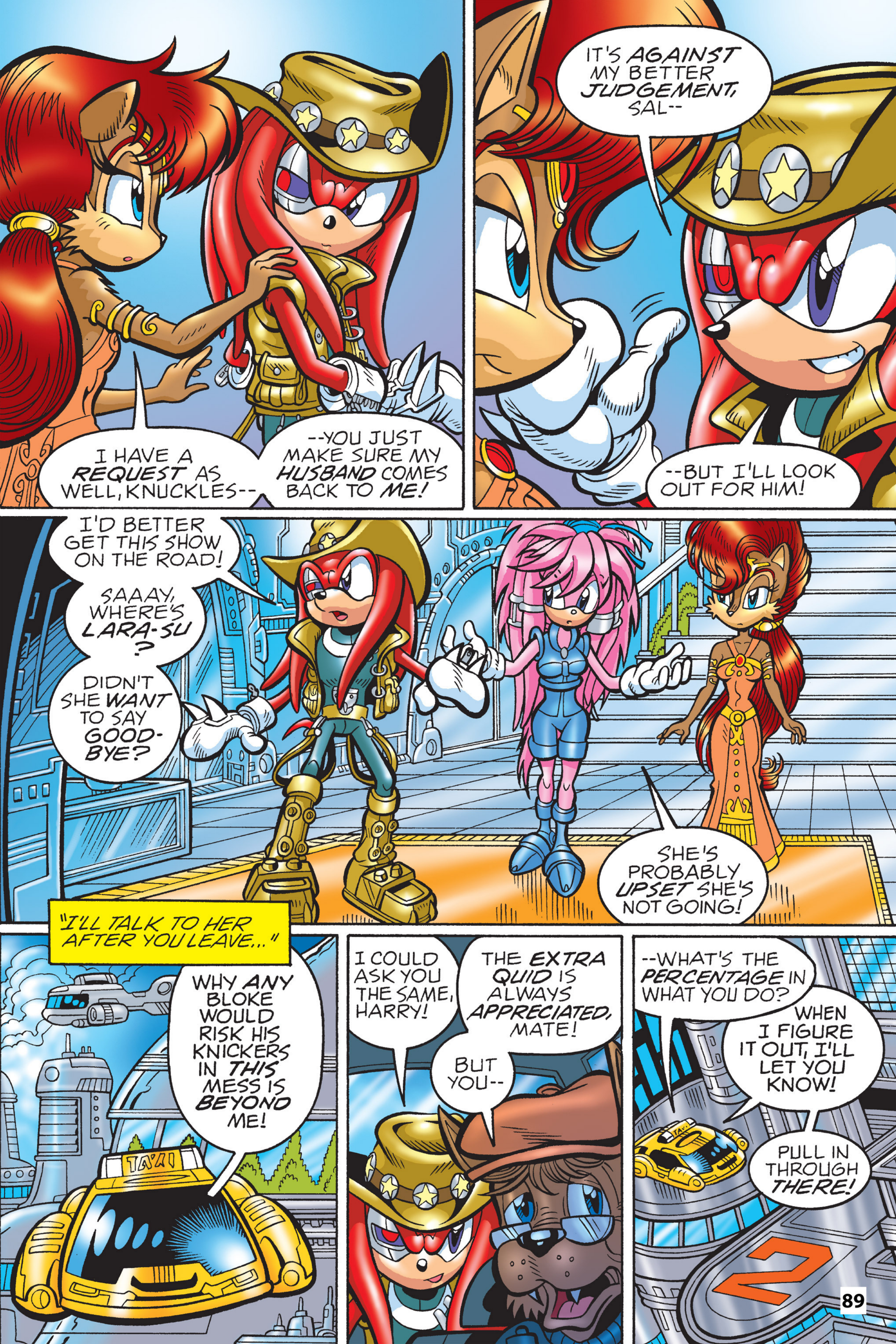
Ken Penders • Writer
Steven Butler • Penciler
John E. Workman • Letterer
Jason Jensen • Colorist
Jim Amash • Inker

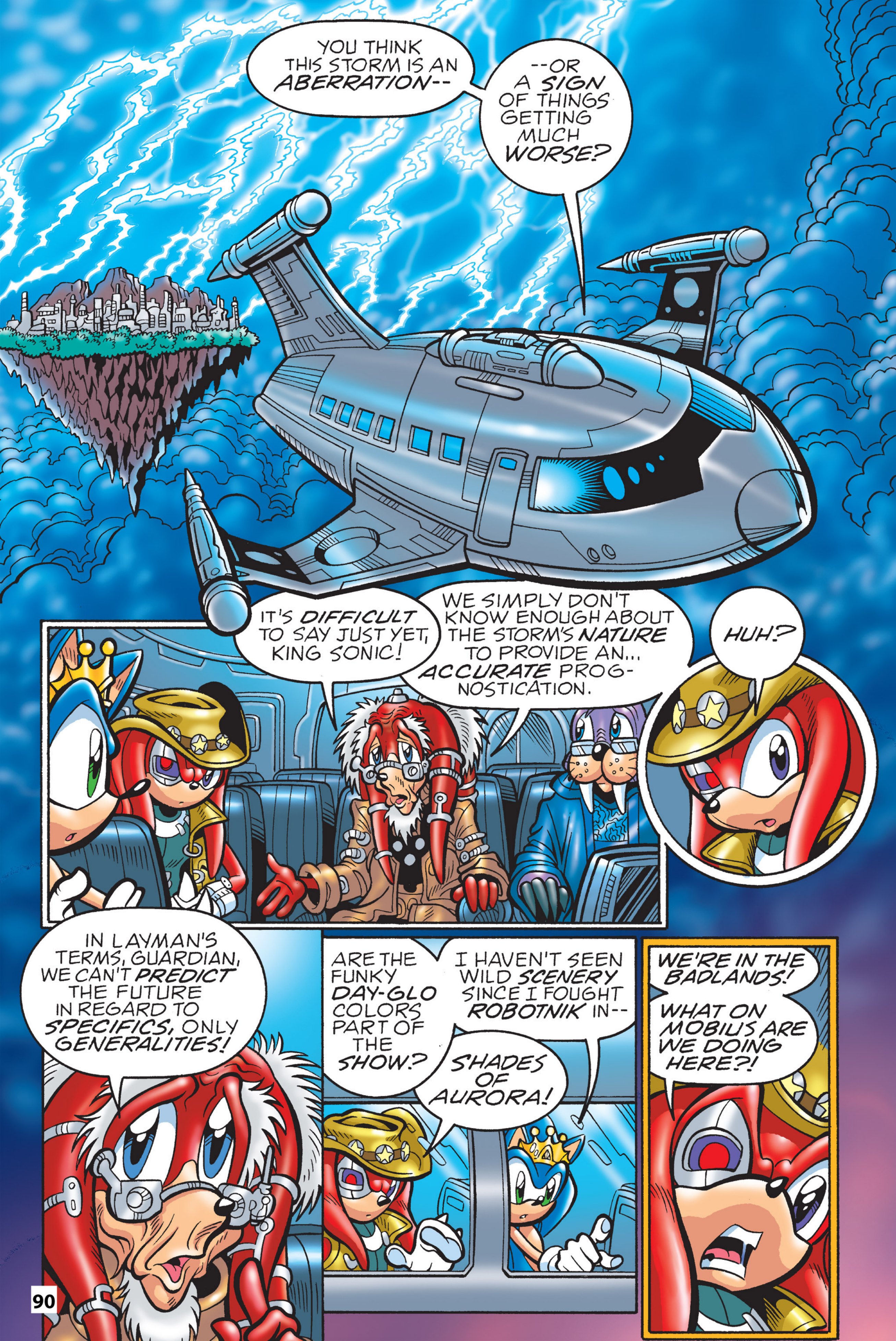
SPECIAL THANKS TO ROBERT LEFFLER AND DYNA LOPEZ AT SEGA LICENSING ™

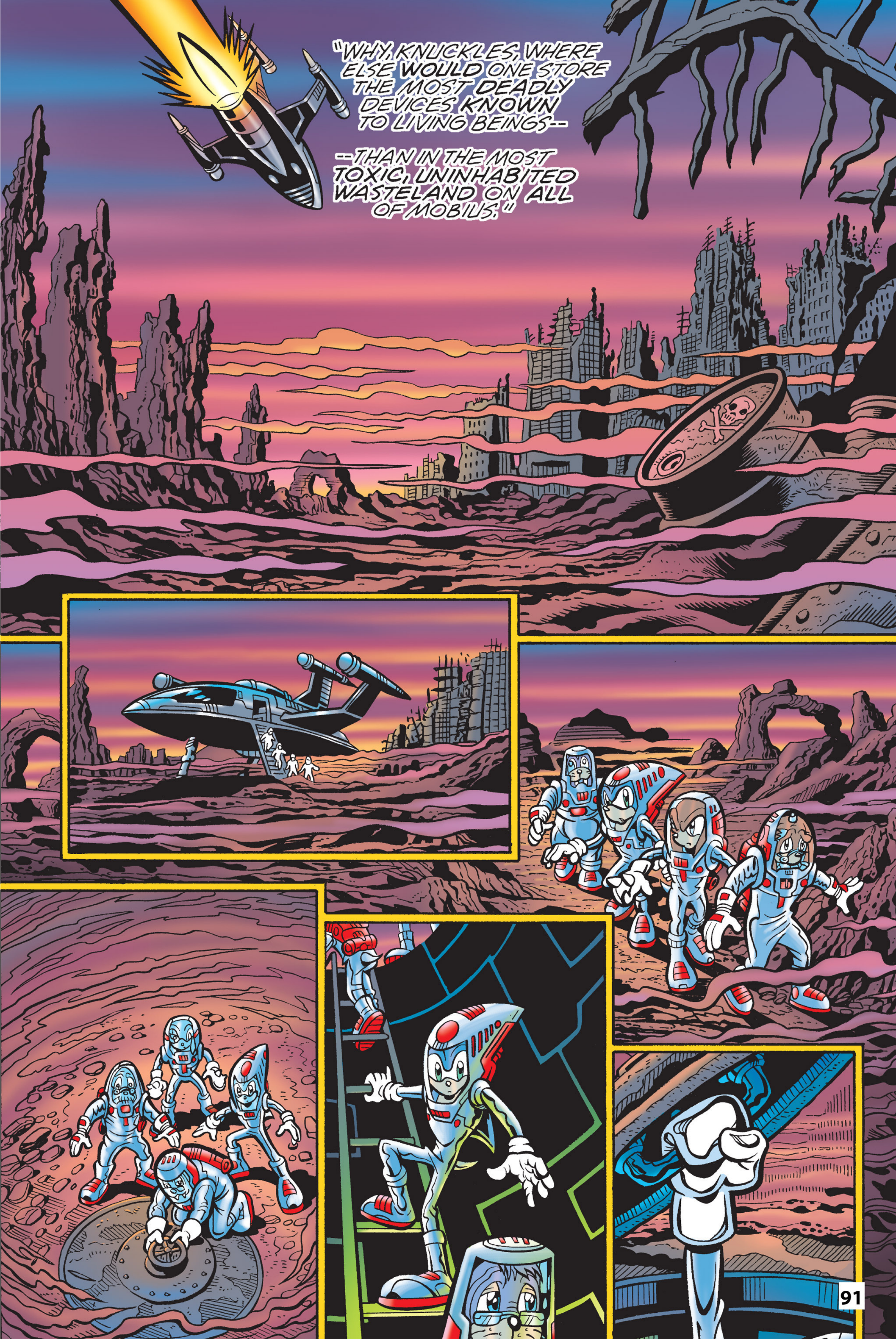

AS KNUCKLES PREPARES TO MEET UP WITH KING SONIC ON A MISSION OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE SURVIVAL OF MOBIUS AND ALL ITS INHABITANTS, THERE IS STILL A PERSONAL DETAIL OR TWO YET TO BE DEALT WITH...
MOM SAID YOU WANTED TO SEE ME, DAD?
YEAH, LARA-SU!
SINCE VISITING YOUR GRANDFATHER --WHOM I WILL ALWAYS REGRET YOU NEVER MET-
--I'VE BEEN DOING SOME SERIOUS THINKING THE PAST SEVERAL HOURS--
--AND I'VE DISCOVERED HOW WRONG I'VE BEEN!
WHAT I THOUGHT WAS RIGHT, WELL...I WAS JUST REPEATING PAST MISTAKES--
--SO I'VE RECONSIDERED YOUR REQUEST!
YOU MEAN--
YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE NEXT GUARDIAN!

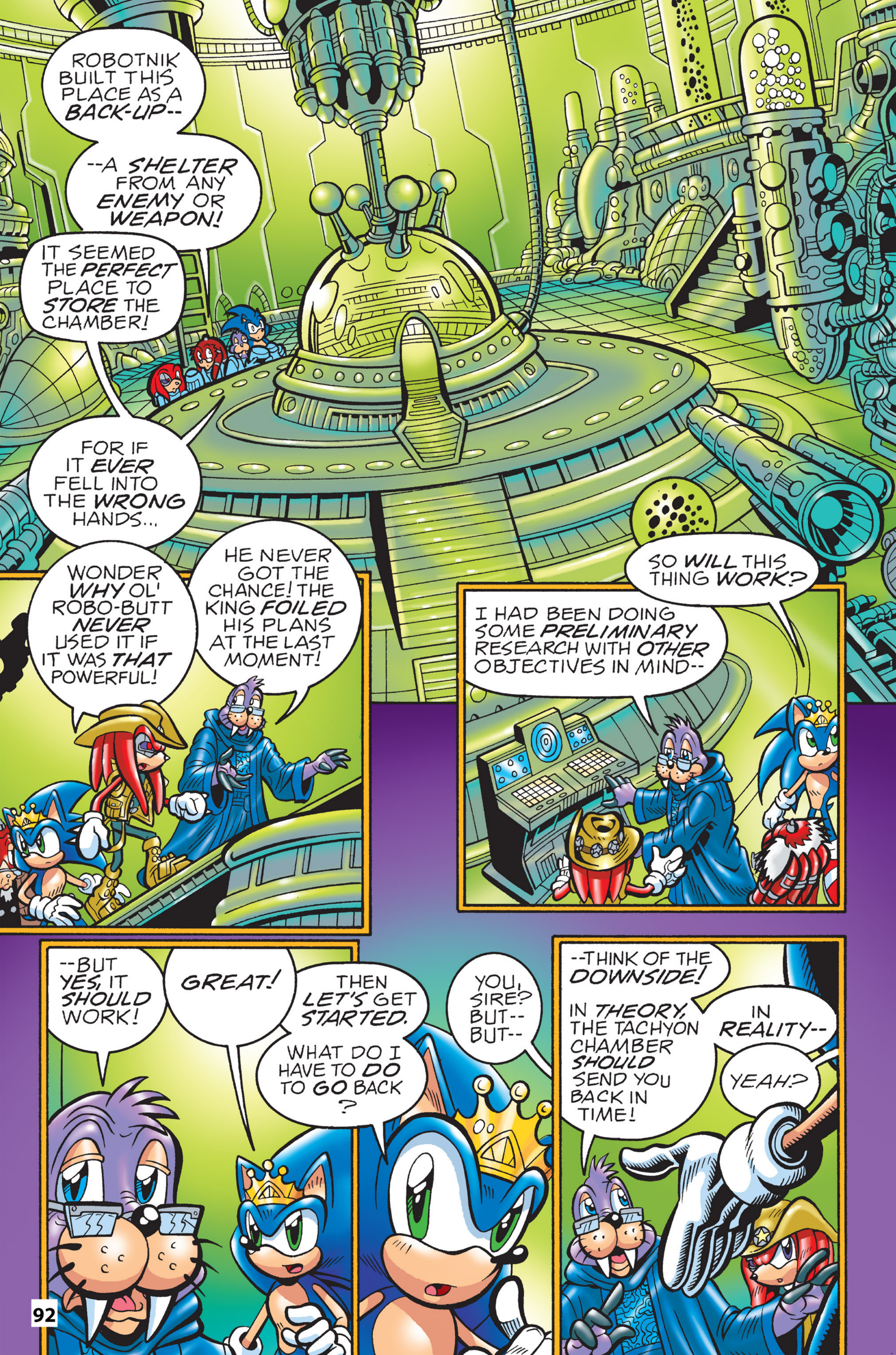

OH, DAD! YOU'RE THE BEST!
SO WHEN DO I START?
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?
WILL YOU OR ARCHIMEDES--
WHOA! WHOA! WHOA!
FIRST OFF, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BE PATIENT!
WE'RE NOT STARTING ANYTHING--
--UNTIL AFTER THIS MISSION!
AND IN THE EVENT I DON'T MAKE IT BACK--
--YOUR MOM KNOWS WHO TO CONTACT TO BEGIN YOUR TRAINING!
WAITAMINUTE! THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU EXPECT TO--
IT COMES WITH THE TERRITORY!
IT'S PART OF WHAT BEING A GUARDIAN IS ALL ABOUT.
THEN I WANNA GO! I'M NOT AFRAID!
OUT OF THE QUESTION!!!
MOM!
WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM?

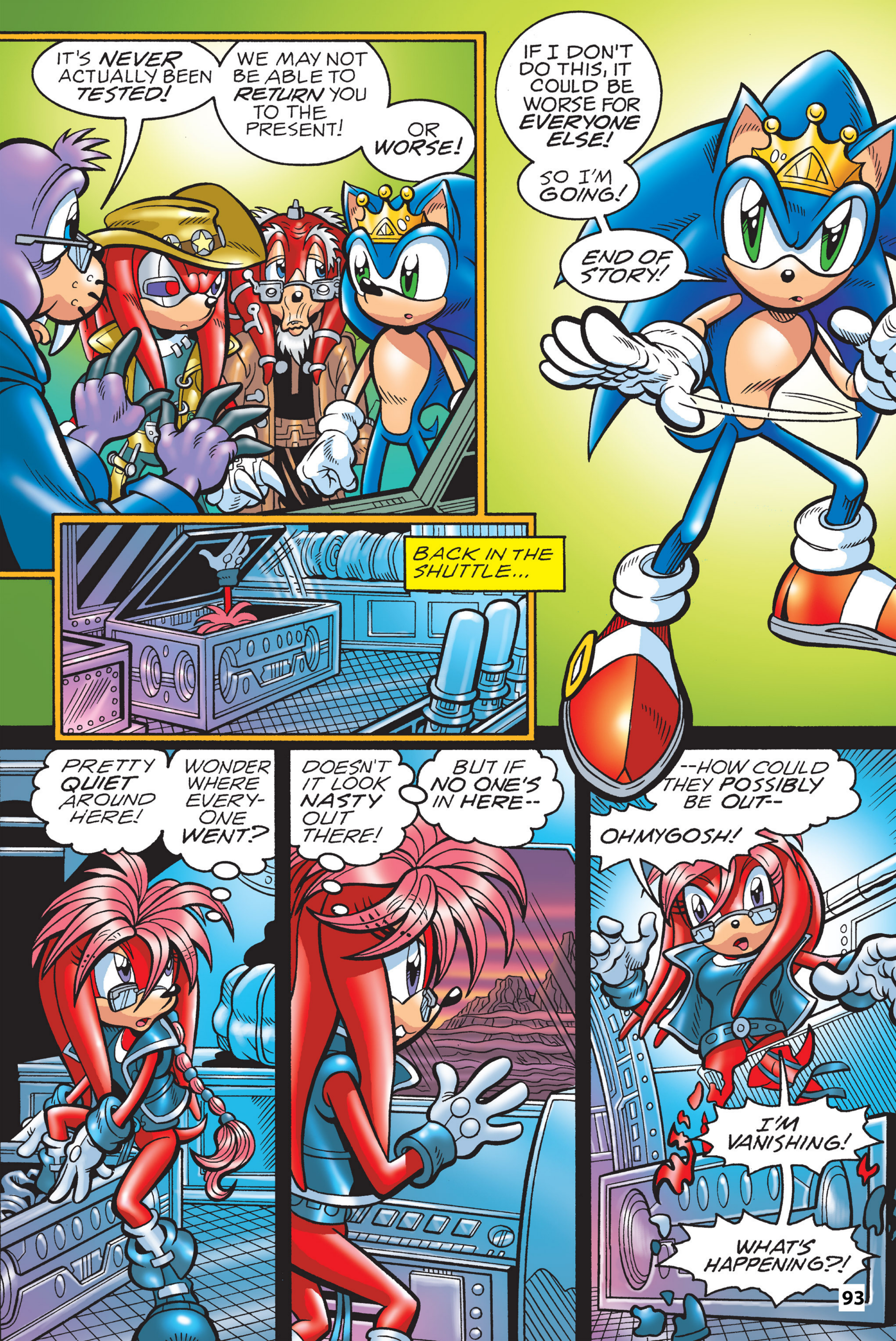

YOUR FATHER DIDN'T SAY *ANYTHING* ABOUT *NOT* COMING BACK!
SO I LEFT *OUT* A FEW *DETAILS!*
NOTHING *IMPORTANT!*
WHAT *ELSE* WASN'T SAID 'CAUSE *YOU* DIDN'T THINK IT IMPORTANT?
OH, YOU MEAN *BESIDES* THE FACT THAT I *LOVE* YOU--
--AND WANT NOTHING MORE THAN TO SEE YOU AND LARA-SU ONCE AGAIN?
YOU BETTER GET *GOING!*
SONIC'S WAITING FOR YOU!
HE HASN'T LEFT YET?
HAVEN'T YOU *CHECKED* OUSIDE?
THE WEATHER'S GOTTEN CONSIDERABLY *WORSE* EVER SINCE YOU GOT *BACK!*
HARRY'S OUT FRONT, WAITING TO TAKE YOU TO THE SHUTTLE-PORT!
YOU THINK OF EVERY-THING, DON'T YOU?
TAXI

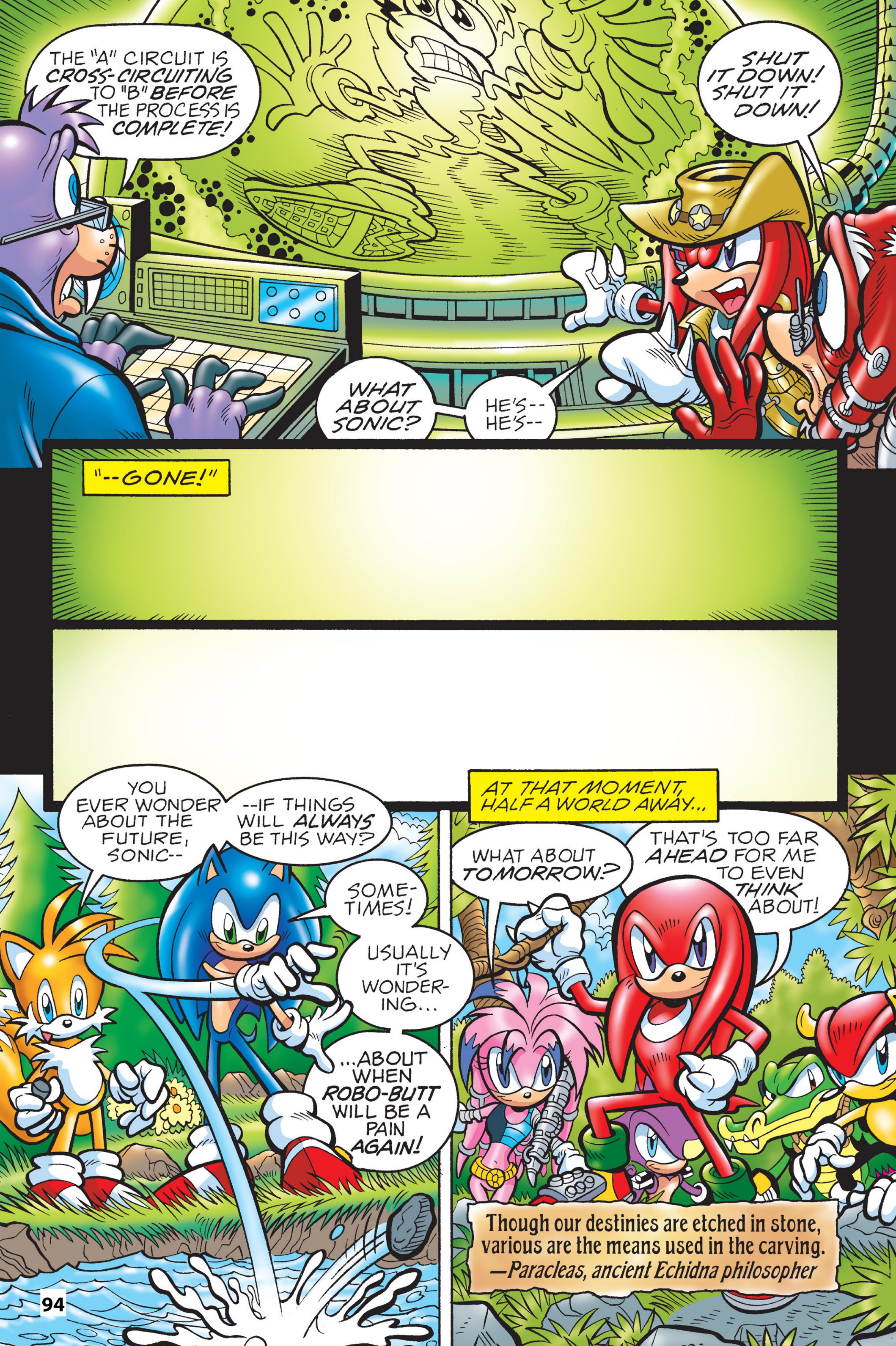

I HAVE A *REQUEST* AS WELL, KNUCKLES--
--YOU JUST MAKE SURE MY *HUSBAND* COMES BACK TO *ME!*
IT'S *AGAINST* MY BETTER *JUDGEMENT,* SAL--
--BUT I'LL LOOK OUT FOR HIM!
I'D BETTER GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!
SAAAY, WHERE'S *LARA-SU?*
DIDN'T SHE *WANT* TO SAY *GOOD-BYE?*
SHE'S PROBABLY *UPSET* SHE'S NOT GOING!
"I'LL TALK TO HER AFTER YOU LEAVE..."
WHY *ANY* BLOKE WOULD RISK HIS KNICKERS IN *THIS* MESS IS *BEYOND* ME!
TAXI
I COULD ASK YOU THE SAME, HARRY!
THE *EXTRA QUID* IS ALWAYS *APPRECIATED,* MATE!
BUT YOU--
--WHAT'S THE *PERCENTAGE* IN WHAT YOU DO?
WHEN I FIGURE IT OUT, I'LL LET YOU KNOW!
PULL IN THROUGH *THERE!*
2


YOU THINK THIS STORM IS AN *ABERRATION*--
--OR A *SIGN* OF THINGS GETTING MUCH *WORSE?*
IT'S *DIFFICULT* TO SAY JUST YET, KING SONIC!
WE SIMPLY DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE STORM'S *NATURE* TO PROVIDE AN... *ACCURATE* PROGNOSTICATION.
HUH?
IN LAYMAN'S TERMS, GUARDIAN, WE CAN'T *PREDICT* THE FUTURE IN REGARD TO *SPECIFICS,* ONLY *GENERALITIES!*
ARE THE FUNKY *DAY-GLO* COLORS PART OF THE *SHOW?*
I HAVEN'T SEEN WILD *SCENERY* SINCE I FOUGHT *ROBOTNIK* IN--
SHADES OF AURORA!
WE'RE IN THE BADLANDS!
WHAT ON MOBIUS ARE WE DOING HERE?!


"WHY, KNUCKLES, WHERE ELSE WOULD ONE STORE THE MOST DEADLY DEVICES KNOWN TO LIVING BEINGS--
--THAN IN THE MOST TOXIC, UNINHABITED WASTELAND ON ALL OF MOBIUS."

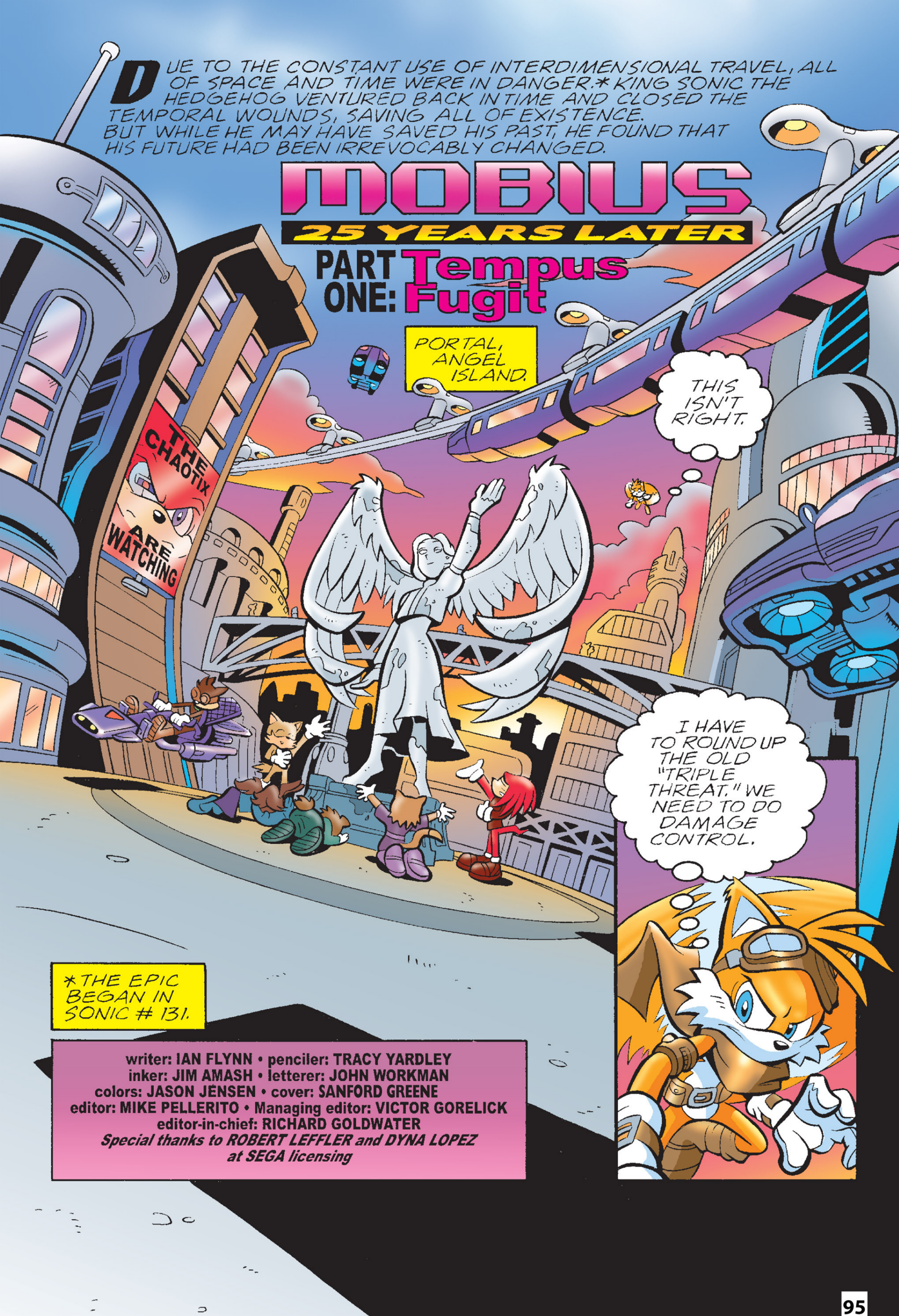

ROBOTNIK BUILT THIS PLACE AS A *BACK-UP*--
--A *SHELTER* FROM ANY *ENEMY* OR *WEAPON!*
IT SEEMED THE *PERFECT* PLACE TO *STORE* THE CHAMBER!
FOR IF IT *EVER* FELL INTO THE *WRONG* HANDS...
WONDER *WHY* OL' ROBO-BUTT *NEVER* USED IT IF IT WAS *THAT* POWERFUL!
HE NEVER GOT THE CHANCE! THE KING *FOILED* HIS PLANS AT THE LAST MOMENT!
SO *WILL* THIS THING *WORK?*
I HAD BEEN DOING SOME *PRELIMINARY* RESEARCH WITH *OTHER* OBJECTIVES IN MIND--
--BUT *YES,* IT *SHOULD* WORK!
GREAT!
THEN *LET'S* GET *STARTED.*
WHAT DO I HAVE TO *DO* TO *GO* BACK?
YOU, SIRE? BUT-- BUT--
--THINK OF THE *DOWNSIDE!*
IN *THEORY,* THE TACHYON CHAMBER *SHOULD* SEND YOU BACK IN TIME!
IN *REALITY*--
YEAH?


IT'S NEVER ACTUALLY BEEN TESTED!
WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN YOU TO THE PRESENT!
OR WORSE!
IF I DON'T DO THIS, IT COULD BE WORSE FOR EVERYONE ELSE!
SO I'M GOING!
END OF STORY!
BACK IN THE SHUTTLE...
PRETTY QUIET AROUND HERE!
WONDER WHERE EVERY-ONE WENT?
DOESN'T IT LOOK NASTY OUT THERE!
BUT IF NO ONE'S IN HERE--
--HOW COULD THEY POSSIBLY BE OUT--
OHMYGOSH!
I'M VANISHING!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?!


THE "A" CIRCUIT IS CROSS-CIRCUITING TO "B" BEFORE THE PROCESS IS COMPLETE!
SHUT IT DOWN! SHUT IT DOWN!
WHAT ABOUT SONIC?
HE'S-- HE'S--
"--GONE!"
YOU EVER WONDER ABOUT THE FUTURE, SONIC--
--IF THINGS WILL ALWAYS BE THIS WAY?
SOME-TIMES!
USUALLY IT'S WONDER-ING...
...ABOUT WHEN ROBO-BUTT WILL BE A PAIN AGAIN!
AT THAT MOMENT, HALF A WORLD AWAY...
WHAT ABOUT TOMORROW?
THAT'S TOO FAR AHEAD FOR ME TO EVEN THINK ABOUT!
Though our destinies are etched in stone, various are the means used in the carving.
—Paracleas, ancient Echidna philosopher

MOBIUS 25 YEARS LATER

PART ONE: Tempus Fugit


DUE TO THE CONSTANT USE OF INTERDIMENSIONAL TRAVEL, ALL OF SPACE AND TIME WERE IN DANGER.* KING SONIC THE HEDGEHOG VENTURED BACK IN TIME AND CLOSED THE TEMPORAL WOUNDS, SAVING ALL OF EXISTENCE. BUT WHILE HE MAY HAVE SAVED HIS PAST, HE FOUND THAT HIS FUTURE HAD BEEN IRREVOCABLY CHANGED.
PORTAL, ANGEL ISLAND.
THE CHAOTIX ARE WATCHING
THIS ISN'T RIGHT.
I HAVE TO ROUND UP THE OLD "TRIPLE THREAT." WE NEED TO DO DAMAGE CONTROL.
*THE EPIC BEGAN IN SONIC # 131.

writer: IAN FLYNN • penciler: TRACY YARDLEY
inker: JIM AMASH • letterer: JOHN WORKMAN
colors: JASON JENSEN • cover: SANFORD GREENE
editor: MIKE PELLERITO • Managing editor: VICTOR GORELICK
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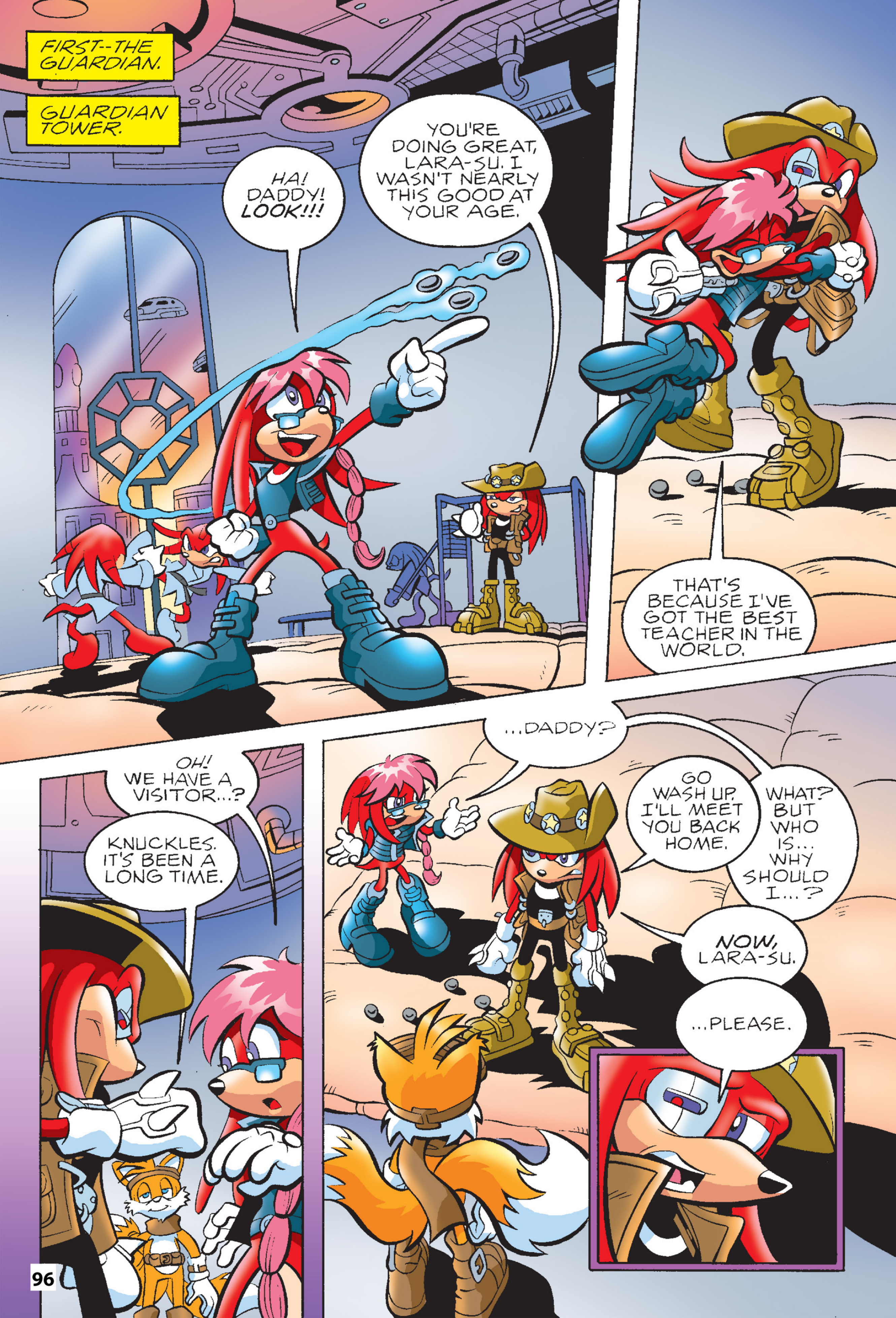
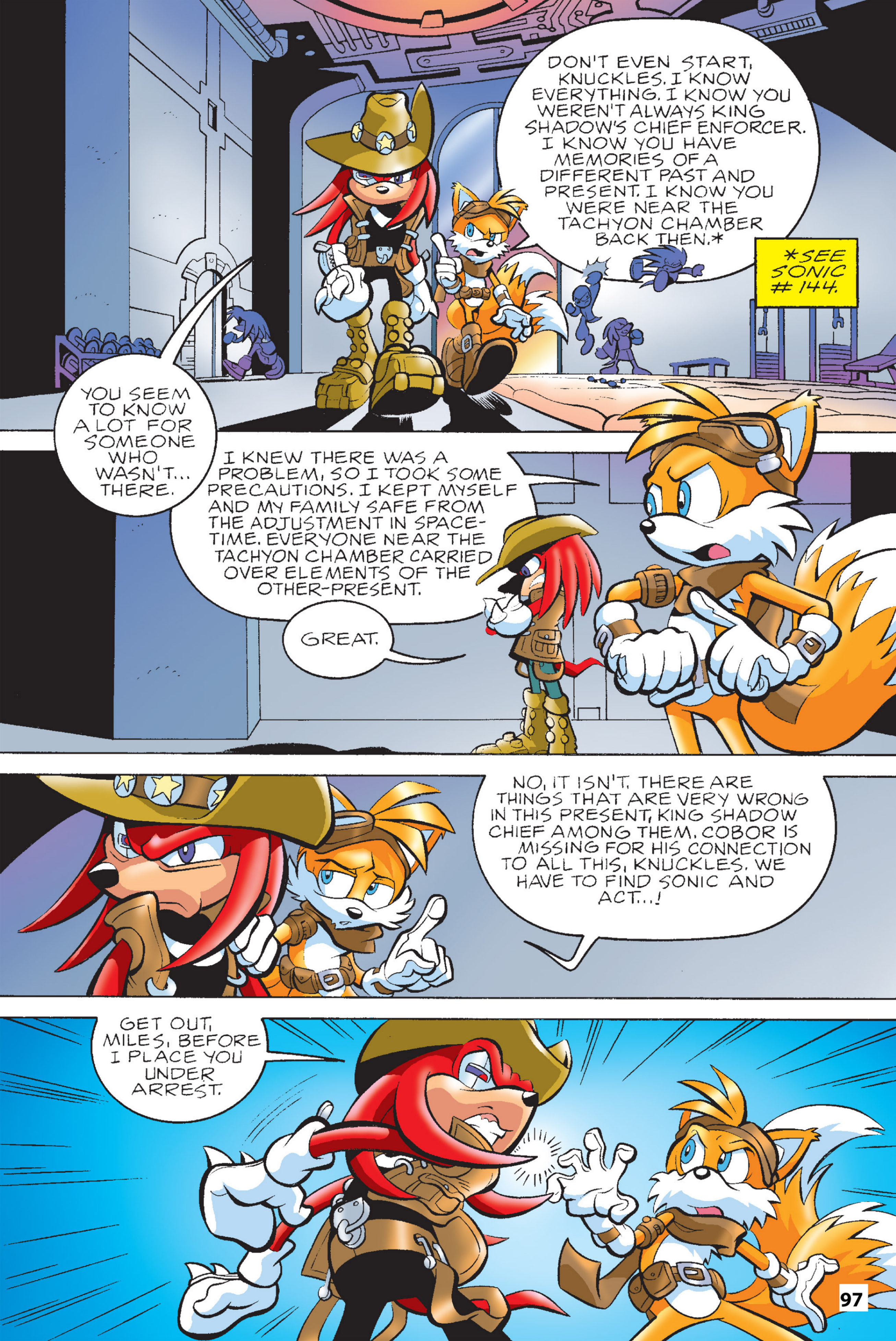
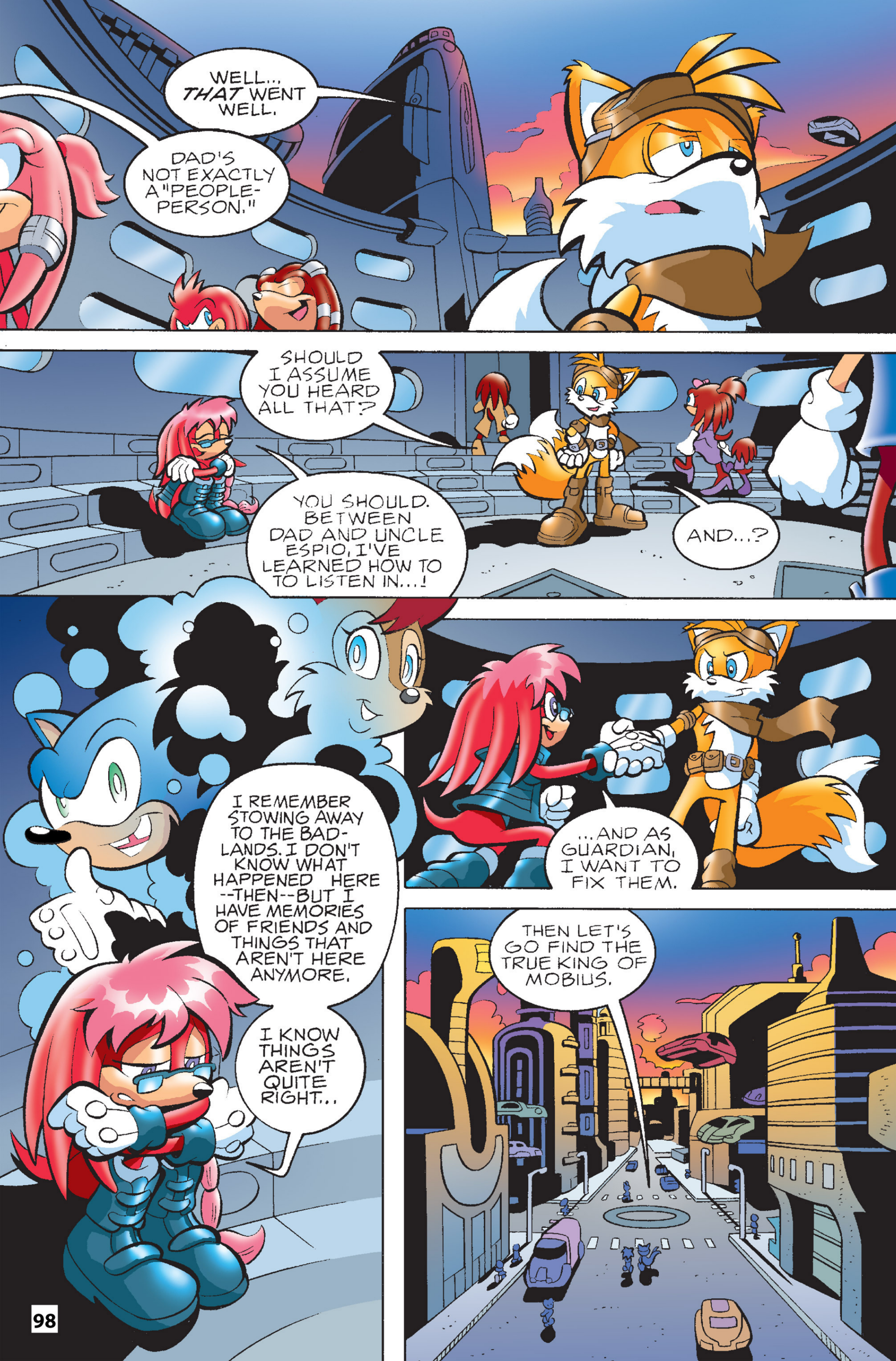
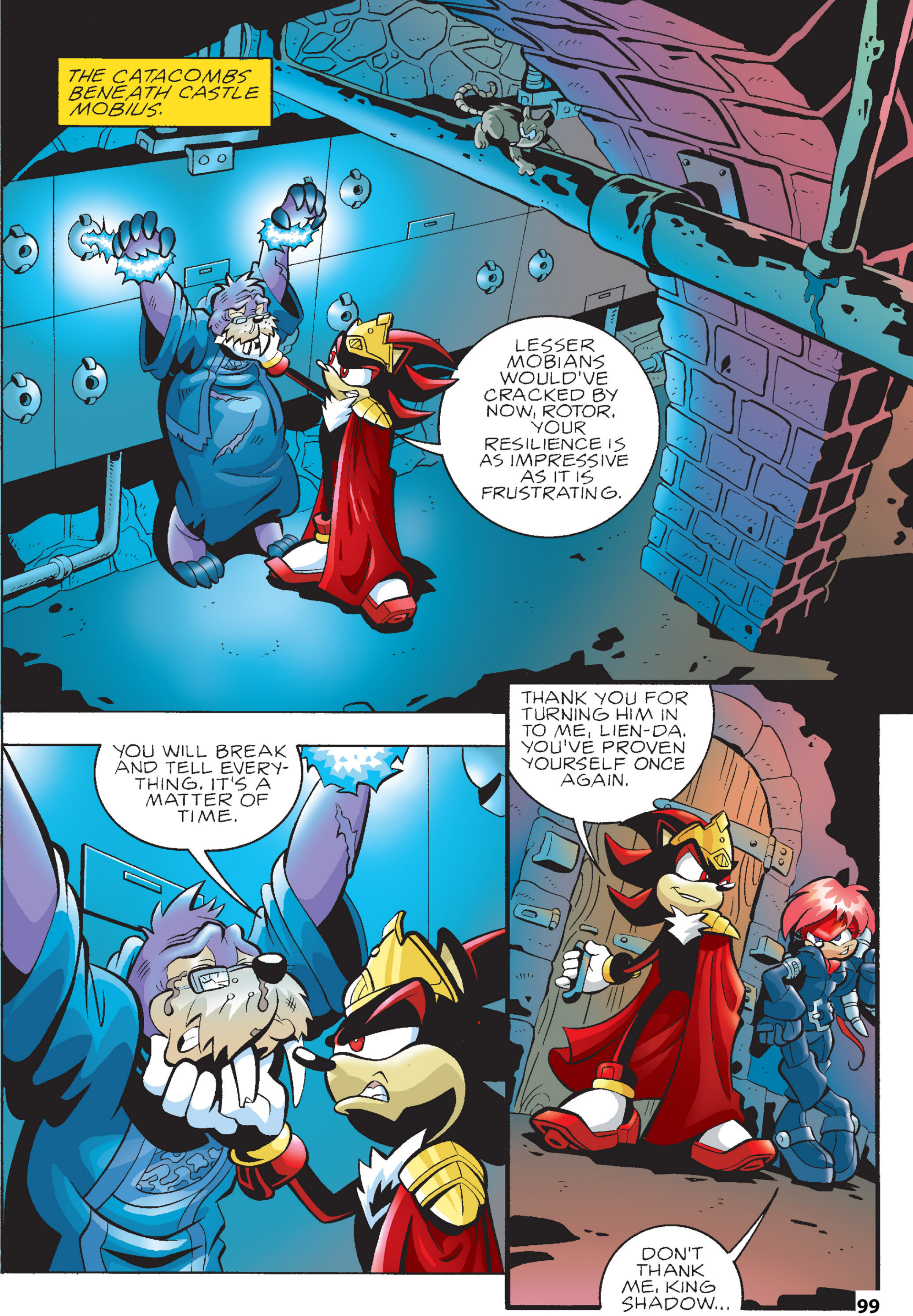
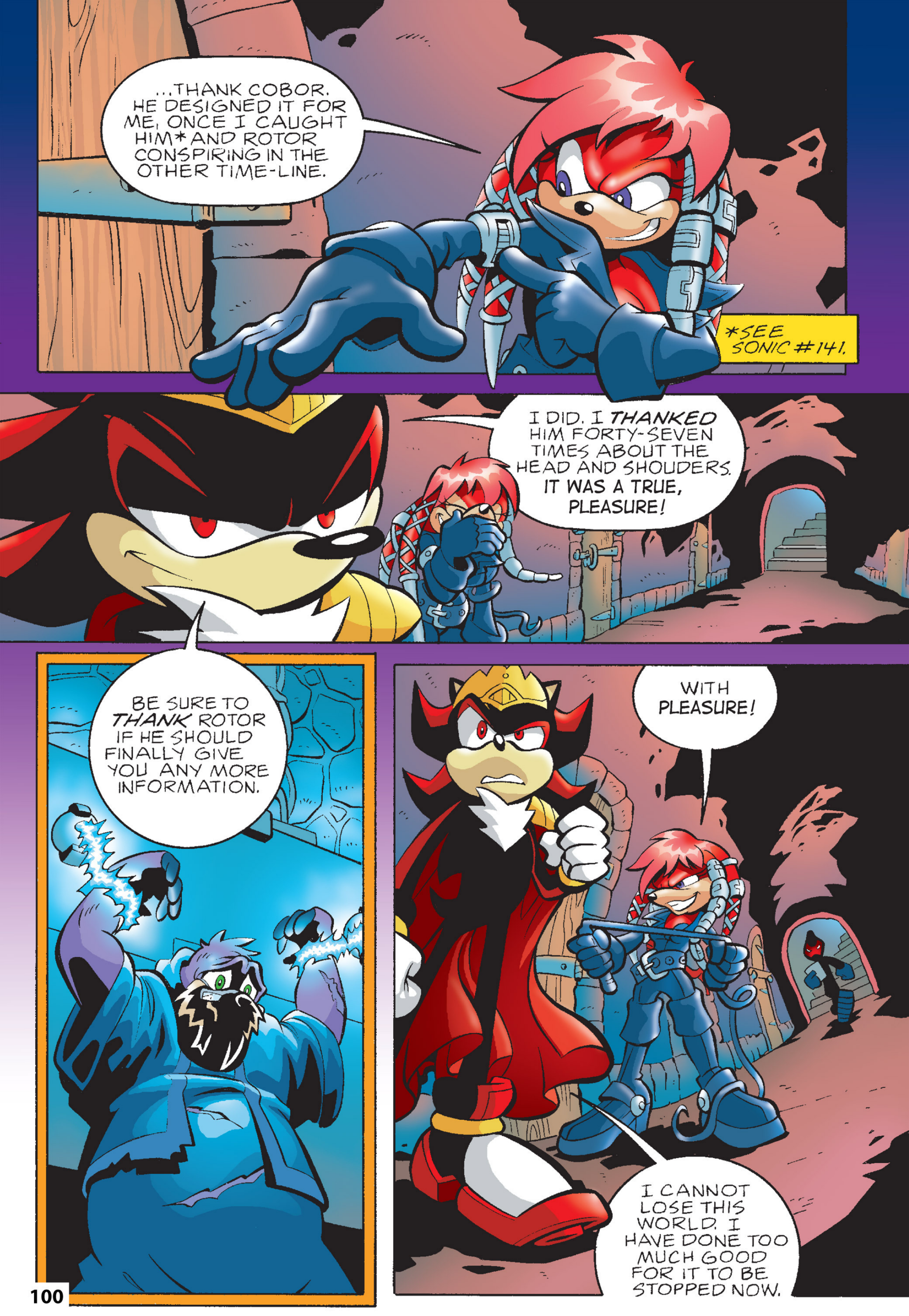
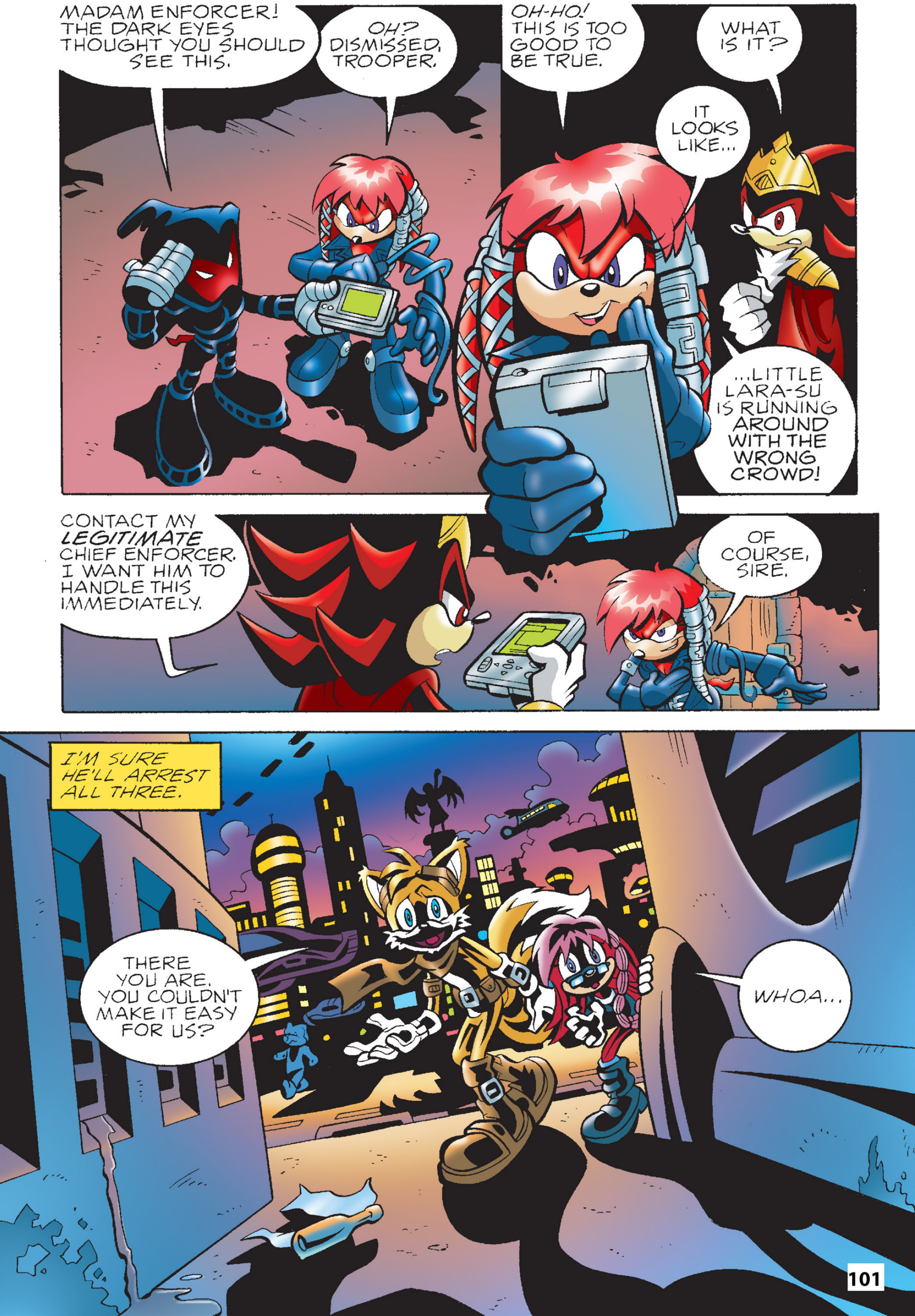

FIRST--THE GUARDIAN.
GUARDIAN TOWER.
HA! DADDY! **LOOK!!!**
YOU'RE DOING GREAT, LARA-SU. I WASN'T NEARLY THIS GOOD AT YOUR AGE.
THAT'S BECAUSE I'VE GOT THE BEST TEACHER IN THE WORLD.
OH! WE HAVE A VISITOR...?
KNUCKLES. IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
...DADDY?
GO WASH UP. I'LL MEET YOU BACK HOME.
WHAT? BUT WHO IS... WHY SHOULD I...?
NOW, LARA-SU.
...PLEASE.

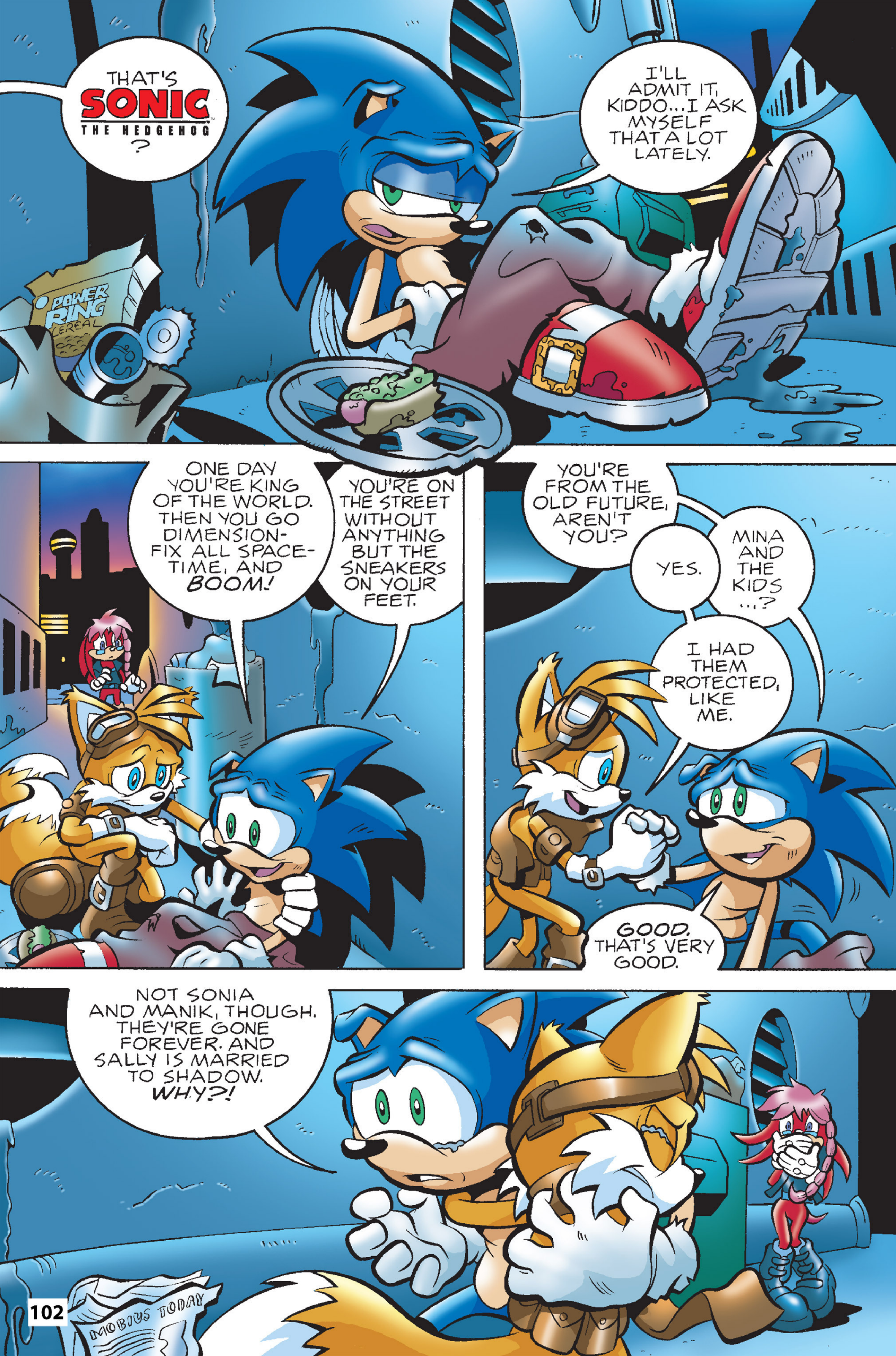

DON'T EVEN START, KNUCKLES. I KNOW EVERYTHING. I KNOW YOU WEREN'T ALWAYS KING SHADOW'S CHIEF ENFORCER. I KNOW YOU HAVE MEMORIES OF A DIFFERENT PAST AND PRESENT. I KNOW YOU WERE NEAR THE TACHYON CHAMBER BACK THEN.*
*SEE SONIC #144.
YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT FOR SOMEONE WHO WASN'T... THERE.
I KNEW THERE WAS A PROBLEM, SO I TOOK SOME PRECAUTIONS. I KEPT MYSELF AND MY FAMILY SAFE FROM THE ADJUSTMENT IN SPACE-TIME. EVERYONE NEAR THE TACHYON CHAMBER CARRIED OVER ELEMENTS OF THE OTHER-PRESENT.
GREAT.
NO, IT ISN'T. THERE ARE THINGS THAT ARE VERY WRONG IN THIS PRESENT, KING SHADOW CHIEF AMONG THEM. COBOR IS MISSING FOR HIS CONNECTION TO ALL THIS, KNUCKLES. WE HAVE TO FIND SONIC AND ACT...!
GET OUT, MILES, BEFORE I PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST.

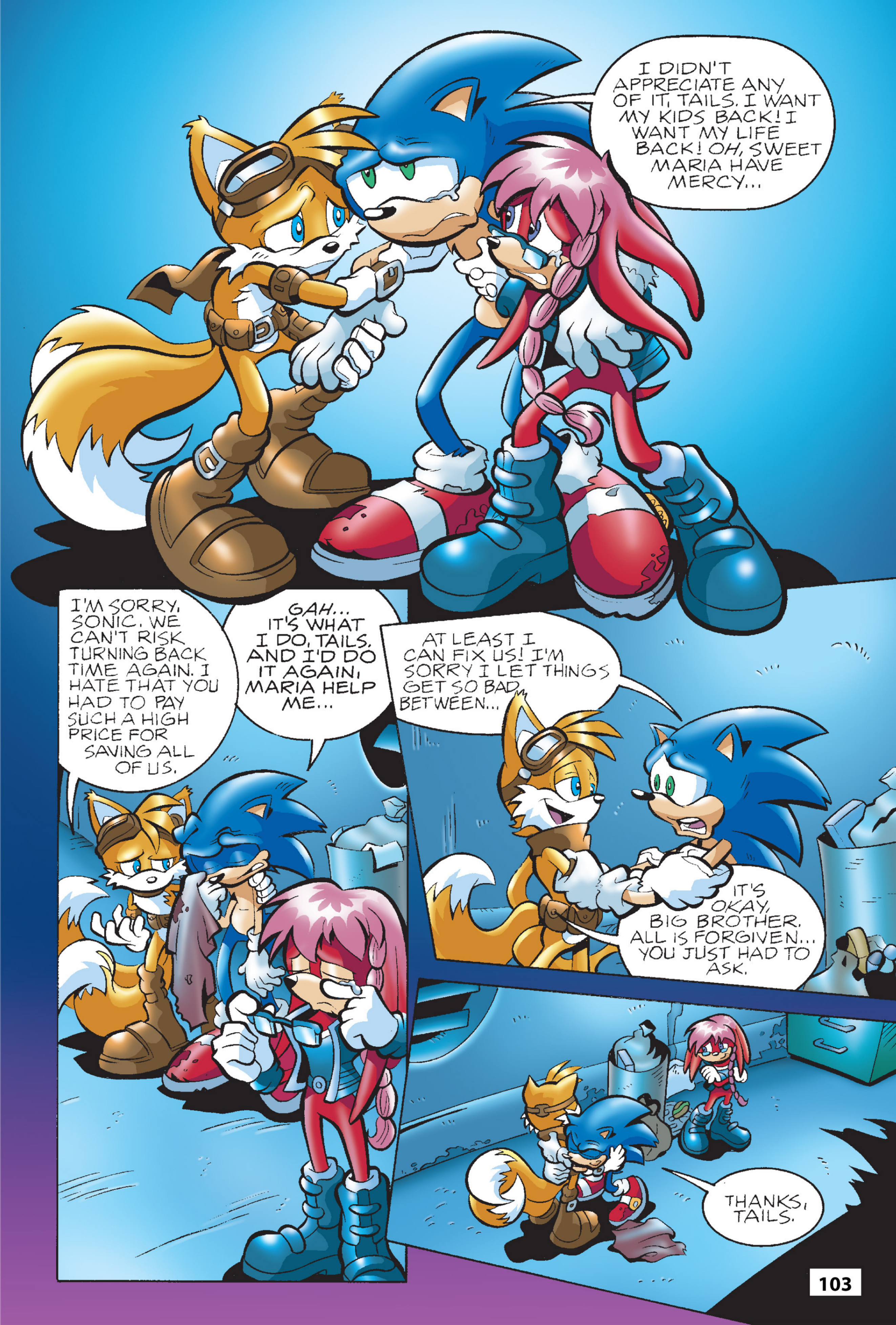

WELL... *THAT* WENT WELL.
DAD'S NOT EXACTLY A "PEOPLE-PERSON."
SHOULD I ASSUME YOU HEARD ALL THAT?
YOU SHOULD. BETWEEN DAD AND UNCLE ESPIO, I'VE LEARNED HOW TO TO LISTEN IN...!
AND...?
I REMEMBER STOWING AWAY TO THE BADLANDS. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED HERE --THEN--BUT I HAVE MEMORIES OF FRIENDS AND THINGS THAT AREN'T HERE ANYMORE.
I KNOW THINGS AREN'T QUITE RIGHT...
...AND AS GUARDIAN, I WANT TO FIX THEM.
THEN LET'S GO FIND THE TRUE KING OF MOBIUS.

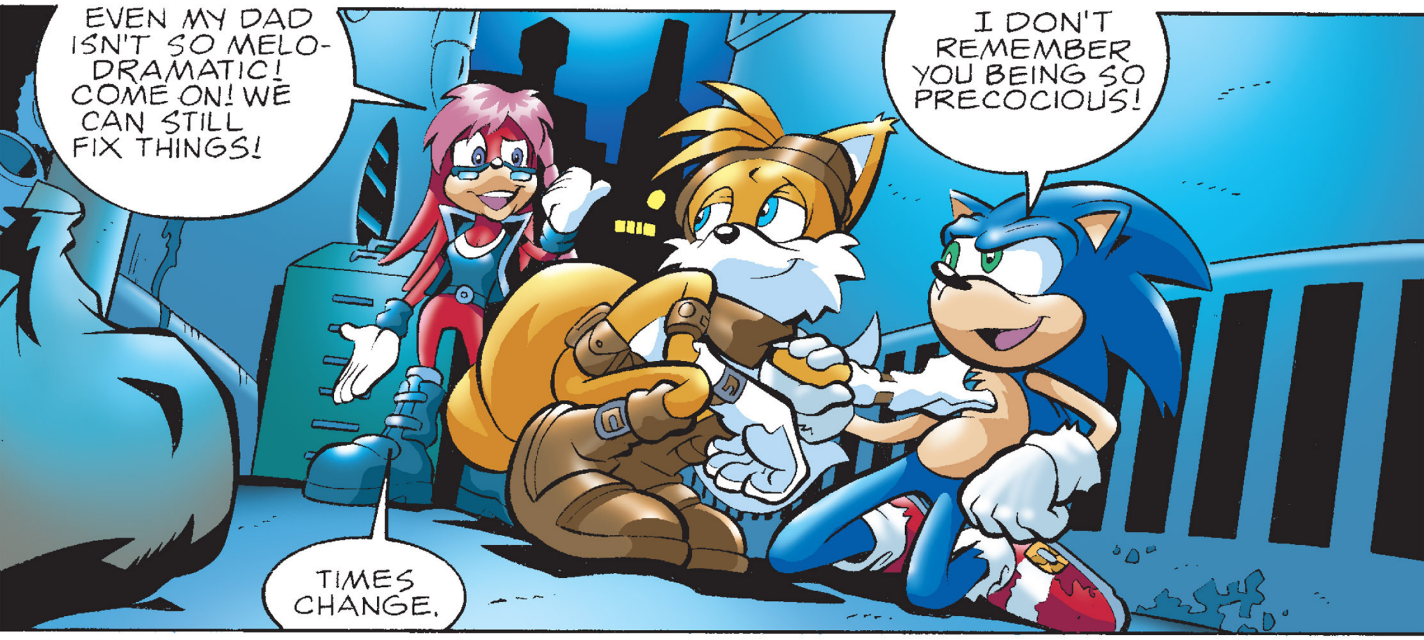

THE CATACOMBS BENEATH CASTLE MOBIUS.
LESSER MOBIANS WOULD'VE CRACKED BY NOW, ROTOR. YOUR RESILIENCE IS AS IMPRESSIVE AS IT IS FRUSTRATING.
YOU WILL BREAK AND TELL EVERYTHING. IT'S A MATTER OF TIME.
THANK YOU FOR TURNING HIM IN TO ME, LIEN-DA. YOU'VE PROVEN YOURSELF ONCE AGAIN.
DON'T THANK ME, KING SHADOW...

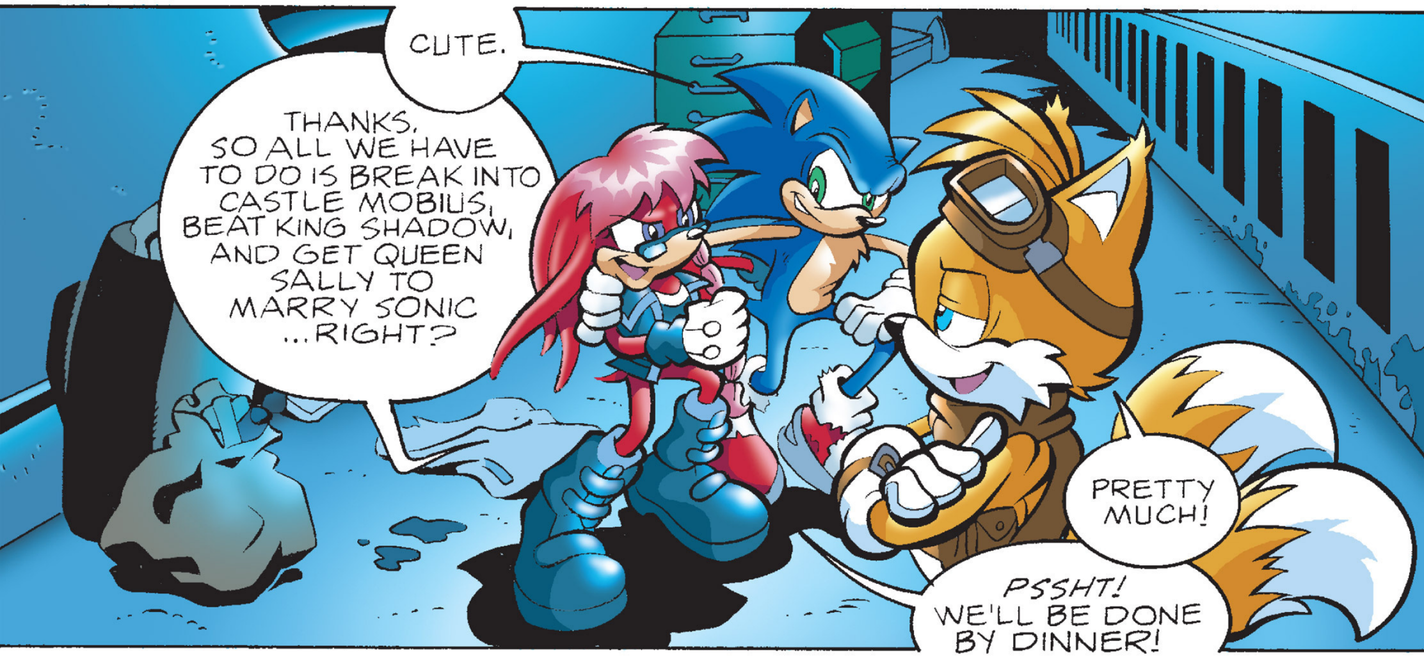

...THANK COBOR. HE DESIGNED IT FOR ME, ONCE I CAUGHT HIM* AND ROTOR CONSPIRING IN THE OTHER TIME-LINE.
*SEE SONIC #141.
I DID. I *THANKED* HIM FORTY-SEVEN TIMES ABOUT THE HEAD AND SHOUDERS. **IT WAS A TRUE, PLEASURE!**
BE SURE TO *THANK* ROTOR IF HE SHOULD FINALLY GIVE YOU ANY MORE INFORMATION.
WITH **PLEASURE!**
I CANNOT LOSE THIS WORLD. I HAVE DONE TOO MUCH GOOD FOR IT TO BE STOPPED NOW.

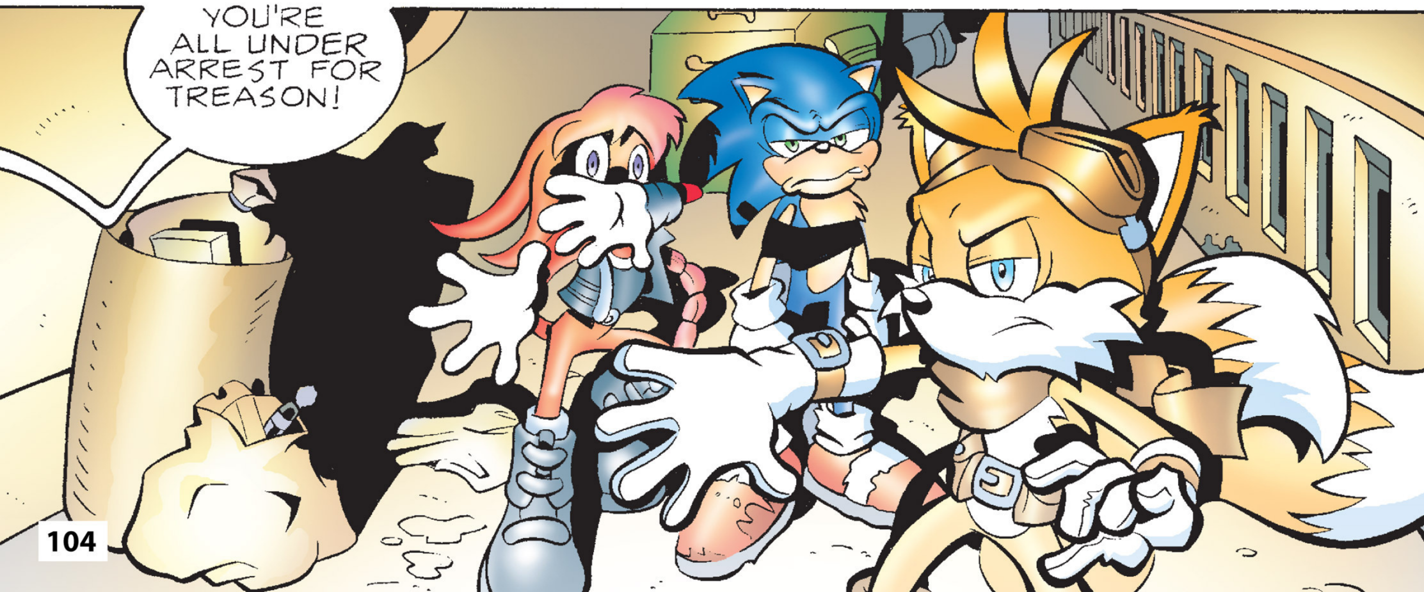

MADAM ENFORCER! THE DARK EYES THOUGHT YOU SHOULD SEE THIS.
OH? DISMISSED, TROOPER.
OH-HO! THIS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.
WHAT IS IT?
IT LOOKS LIKE...
...LITTLE LARA-SU IS RUNNING AROUND WITH THE WRONG CROWD!
CONTACT MY *LEGITIMATE* CHIEF ENFORCER. I WANT HIM TO HANDLE THIS IMMEDIATELY.
OF COURSE, SIRE.
I'M SURE HE'LL ARREST ALL THREE.
THERE YOU ARE. YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT EASY FOR US?
WHOA...

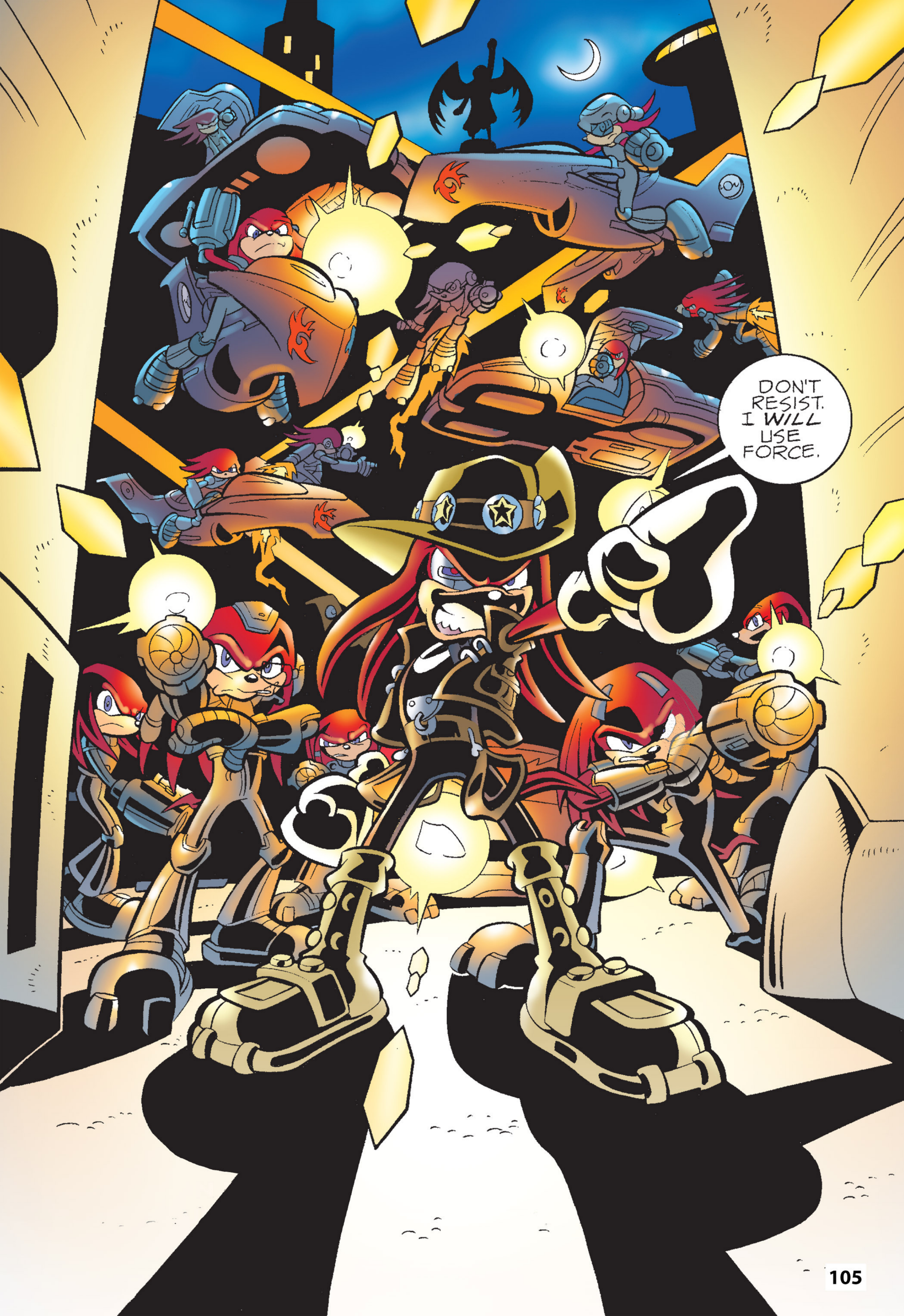

THAT'S SONIC THE HEDGEHOG?
I'LL ADMIT IT, KIDDO...I ASK MYSELF THAT A LOT LATELY.
POWER RING CEREAL
ONE DAY YOU'RE KING OF THE WORLD. THEN YOU GO DIMENSION-FIX ALL SPACE-TIME, AND *BOOM!*
YOU'RE ON THE STREET WITHOUT ANYTHING BUT THE SNEAKERS ON YOUR FEET.
YOU'RE FROM THE OLD FUTURE, AREN'T YOU?
YES.
MINA AND THE KIDS ...?
I HAD THEM PROTECTED, LIKE ME.
GOOD. THAT'S VERY GOOD.
NOT SONIA AND MANIK, THOUGH. THEY'RE GONE FOREVER. AND SALLY IS MARRIED TO SHADOW. *WHY?!*
MOBIUS TODAY


I DIDN'T APPRECIATE ANY OF IT, TAILS. I WANT MY KIDS BACK! I WANT MY LIFE BACK! *OH*, SWEET MARIA HAVE MERCY...
I'M SORRY, SONIC. WE CAN'T RISK TURNING BACK TIME AGAIN. I HATE THAT YOU HAD TO PAY SUCH A HIGH PRICE FOR SAVING ALL OF US.
GAH... IT'S WHAT I DO, TAILS. AND I'D DO IT AGAIN, MARIA HELP ME...
AT LEAST I CAN FIX US! I'M SORRY I LET THINGS GET SO BAD BETWEEN...
IT'S OKAY, BIG BROTHER. ALL IS FORGIVEN... YOU JUST HAD TO ASK.
THANKS, TAILS.


EVEN MY DAD ISN'T SO MELODRAMATIC! COME ON! WE CAN STILL FIX THINGS!
I DON'T REMEMBER YOU BEING SO PRECOCIOUS!
TIMES CHANGE.


CUTE.
THANKS. SO ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS BREAK INTO CASTLE MOBIUS, BEAT KING SHADOW, AND GET QUEEN SALLY TO MARRY SONIC ...RIGHT?
PRETTY MUCH!
PSSHT! WE'LL BE DONE BY DINNER!


YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST FOR TREASON!


DON'T RESIST. I *WILL* USE FORCE.

MOBIUS 25 YEARS LATER

PART TWO: Tempus Aeternus

writer: IAN FLYNN • penciler: TRACY YARDLEY
inker: JIM AMASH • letterer: JOHN WORKMAN
colors: JASON JENSEN • cover: SANFORD GREENE
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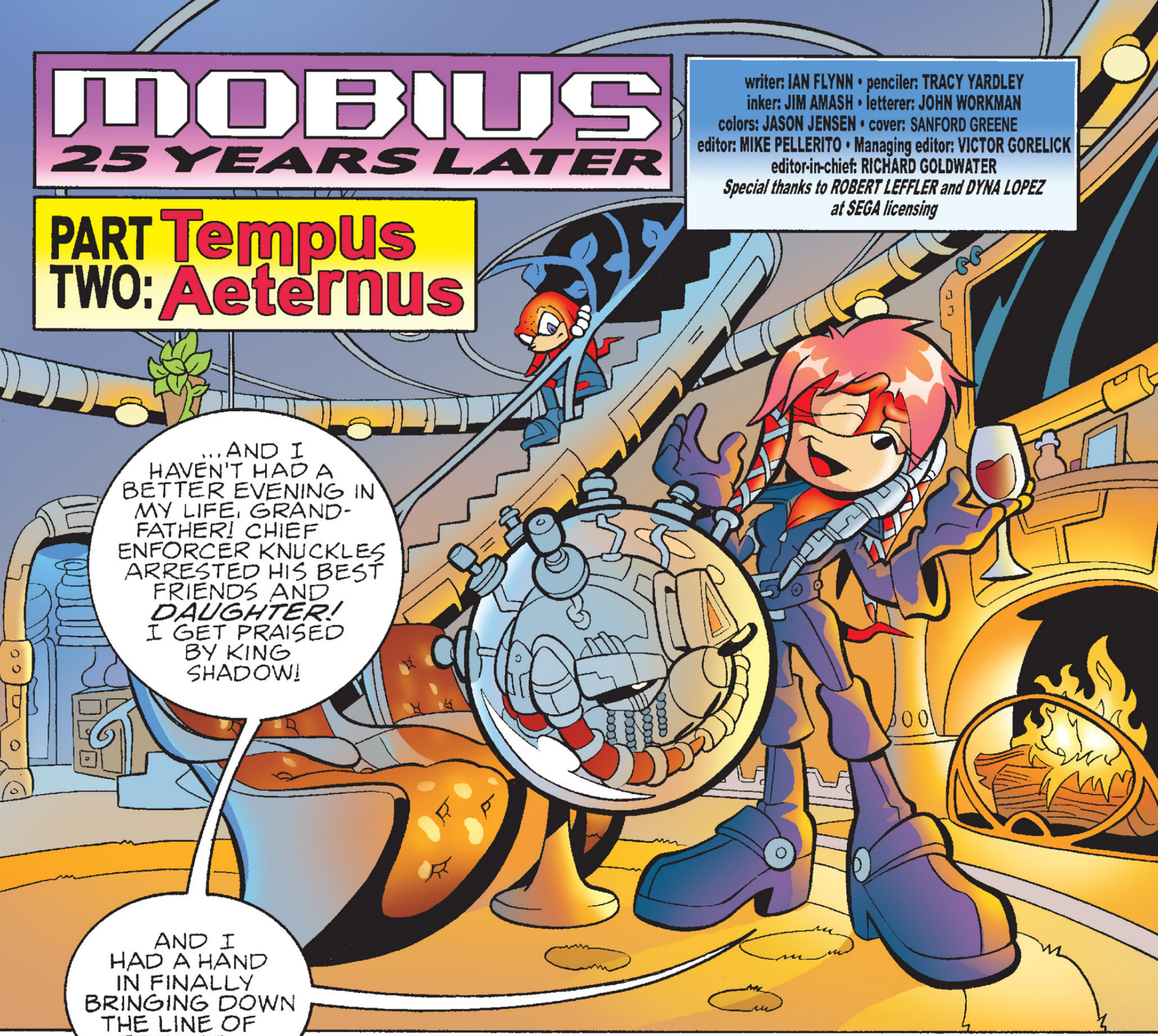
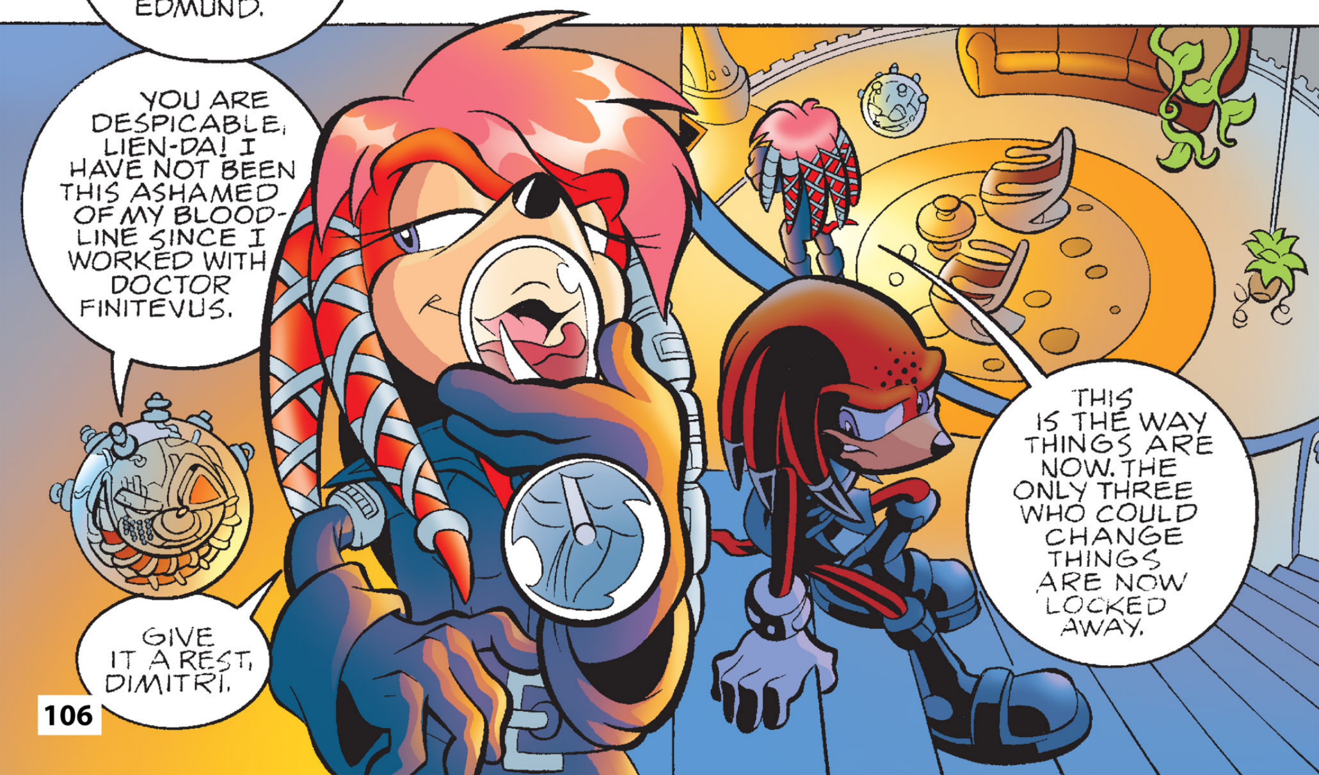
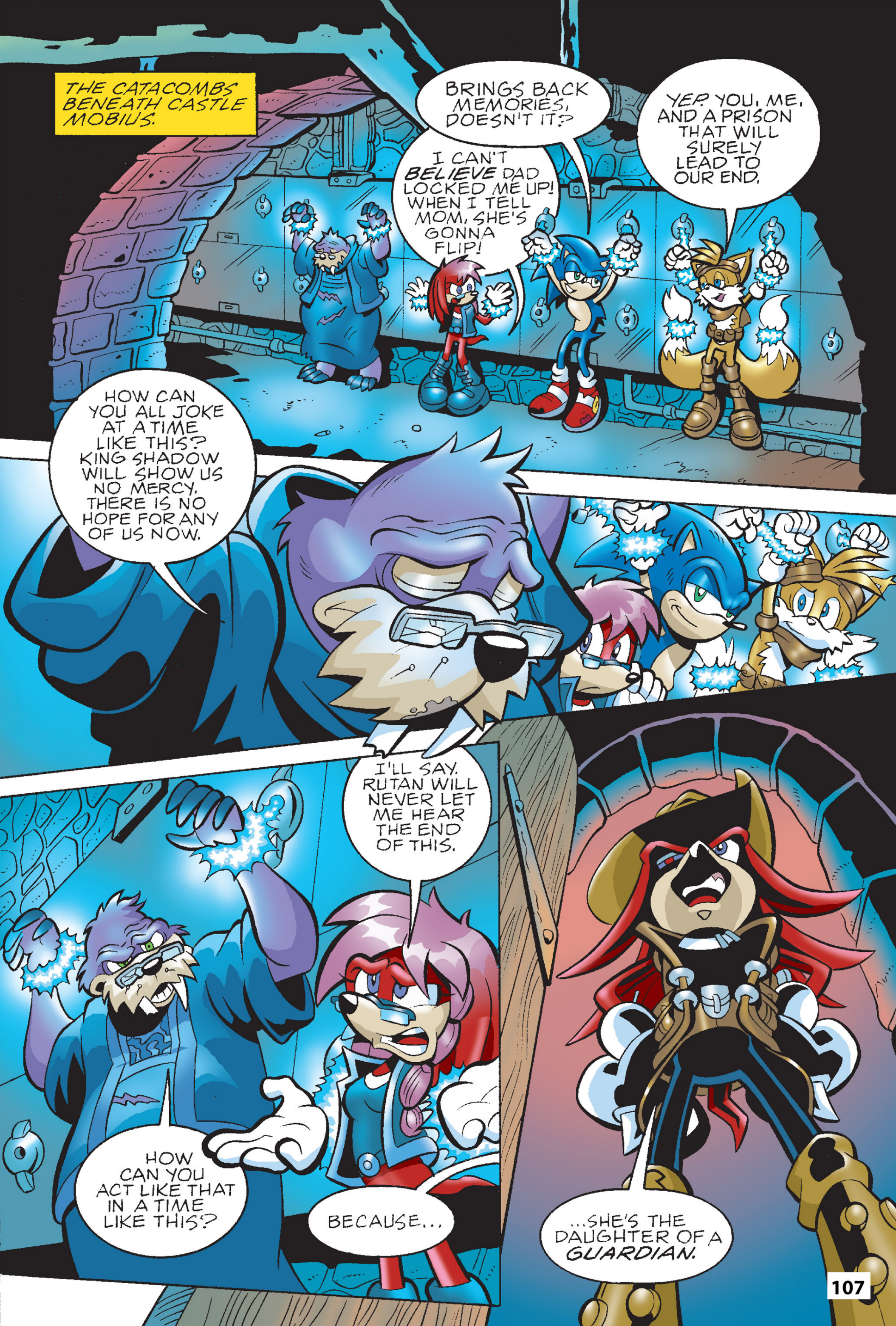
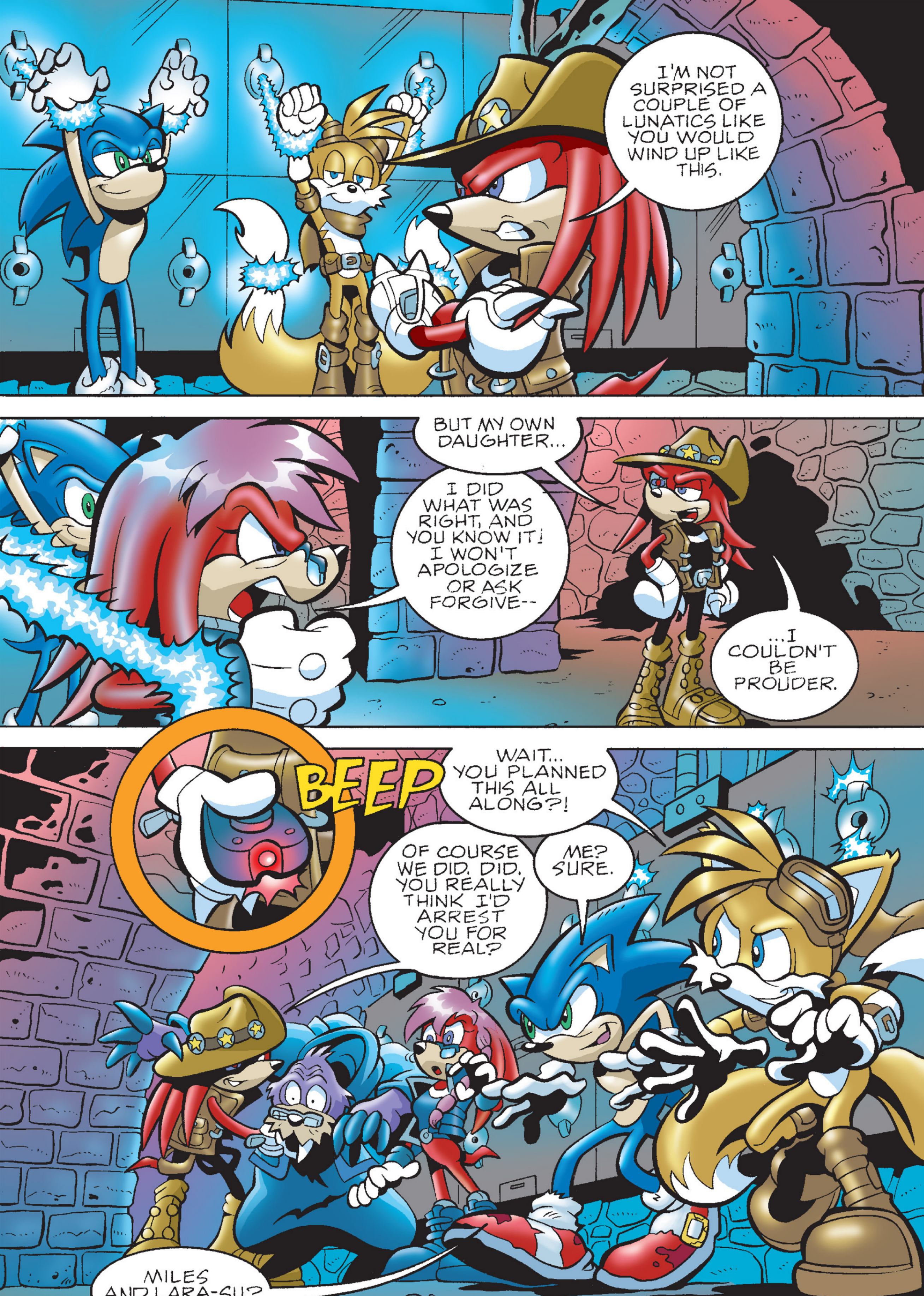
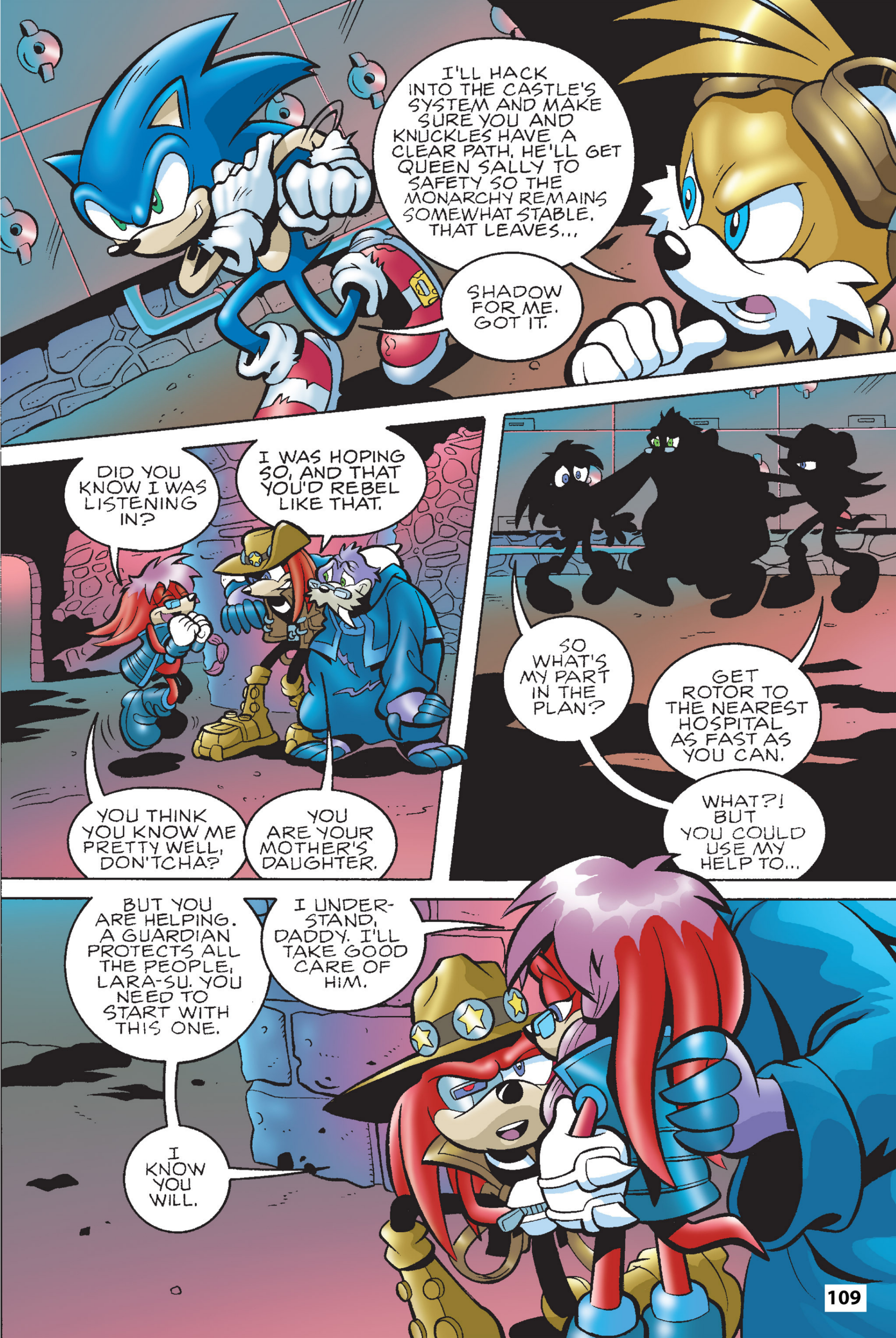
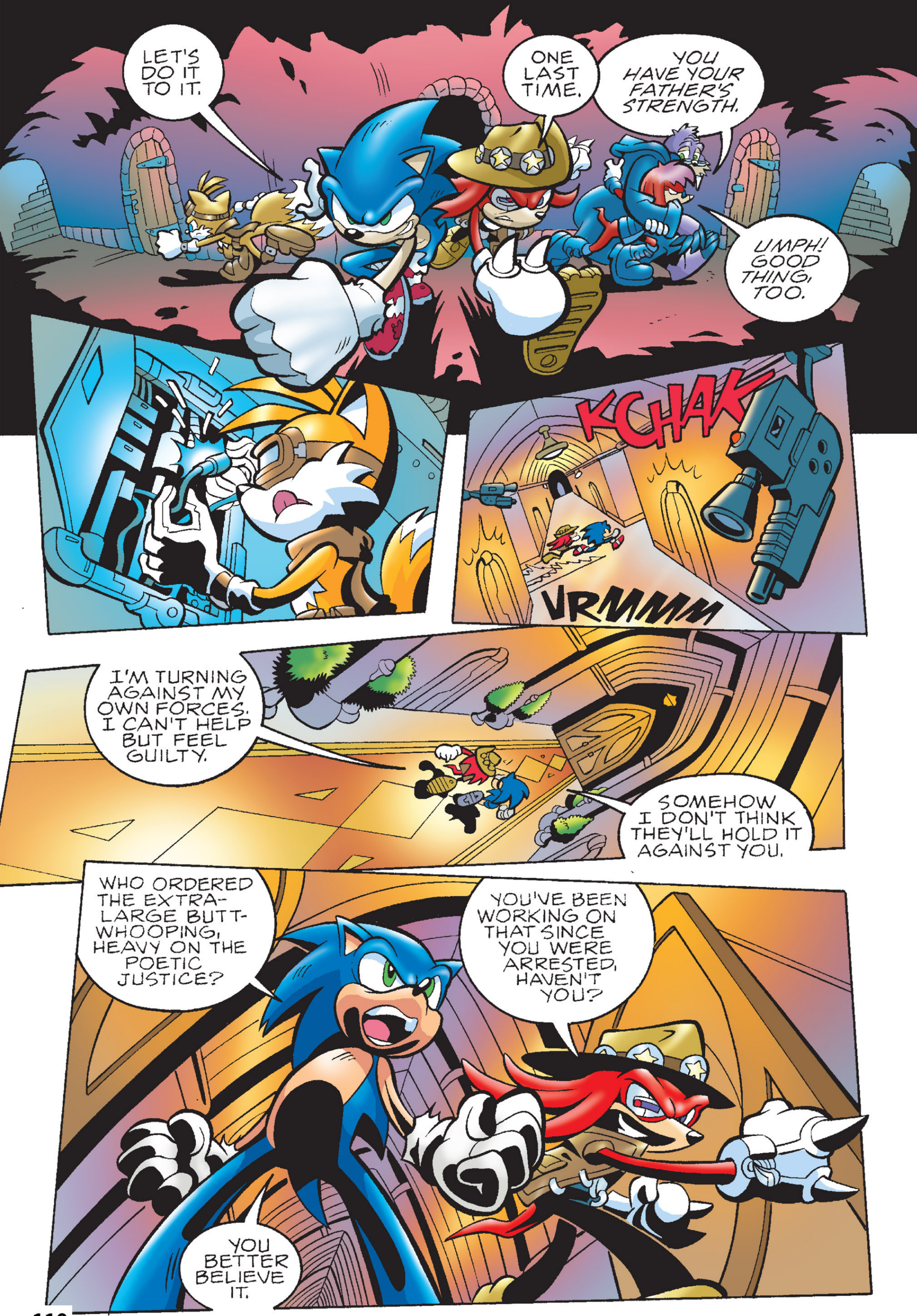

...AND I HAVEN'T HAD A BETTER EVENING IN MY LIFE, GRANDFATHER! CHIEF ENFORCER KNUCKLES ARRESTED HIS BEST FRIENDS AND *DAUGHTER!* I GET PRAISED BY KING SHADOW!
AND I HAD A HAND IN FINALLY BRINGING DOWN THE LINE OF EDMUND.

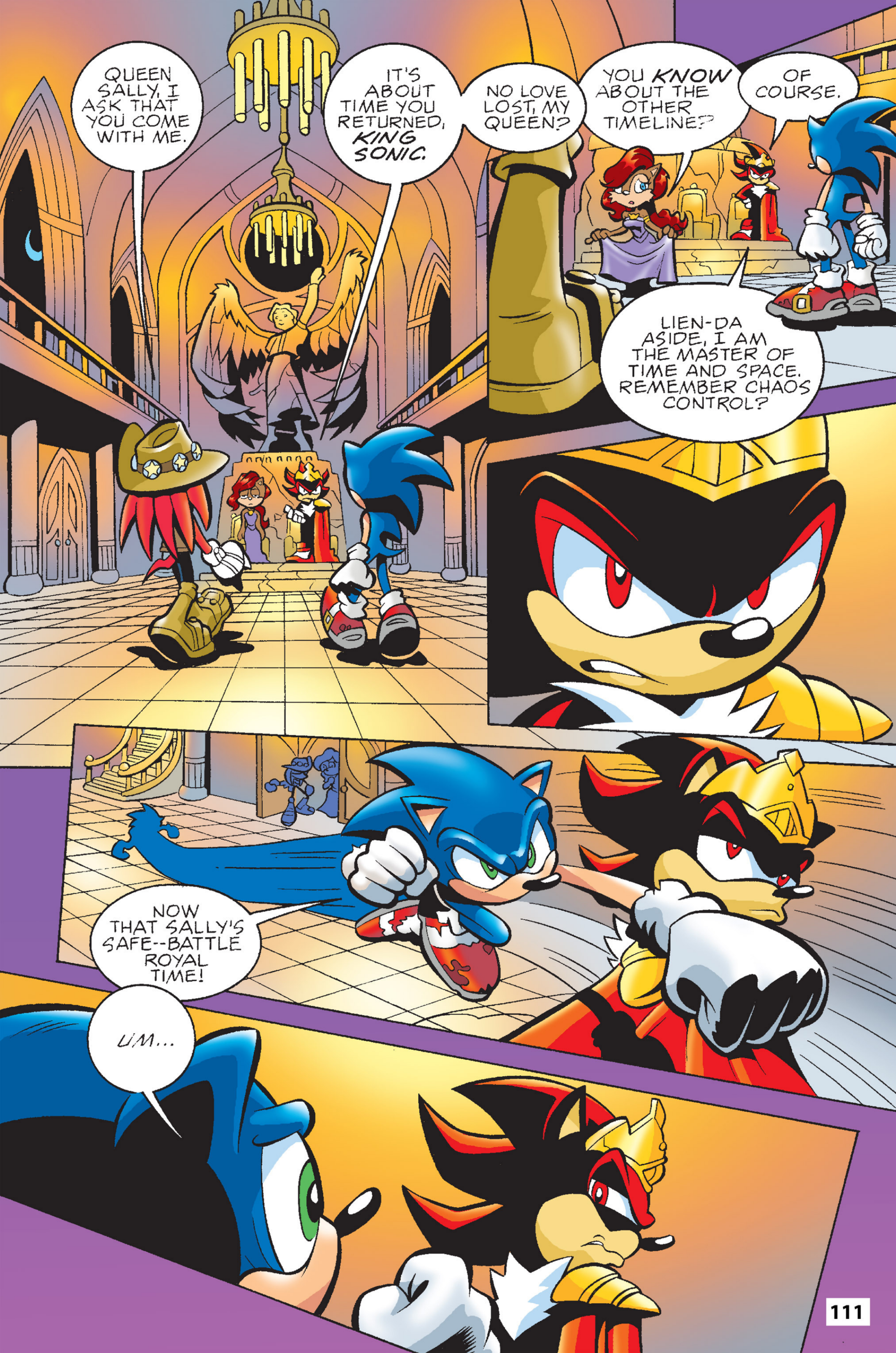

YOU ARE DESPICABLE, LIEN-DA! I HAVE NOT BEEN THIS ASHAMED OF MY BLOODLINE SINCE I WORKED WITH DOCTOR FINITEVUS.
GIVE IT A REST, DIMITRI.
THIS IS THE WAY THINGS ARE NOW. THE ONLY THREE WHO COULD CHANGE THINGS ARE NOW LOCKED AWAY.

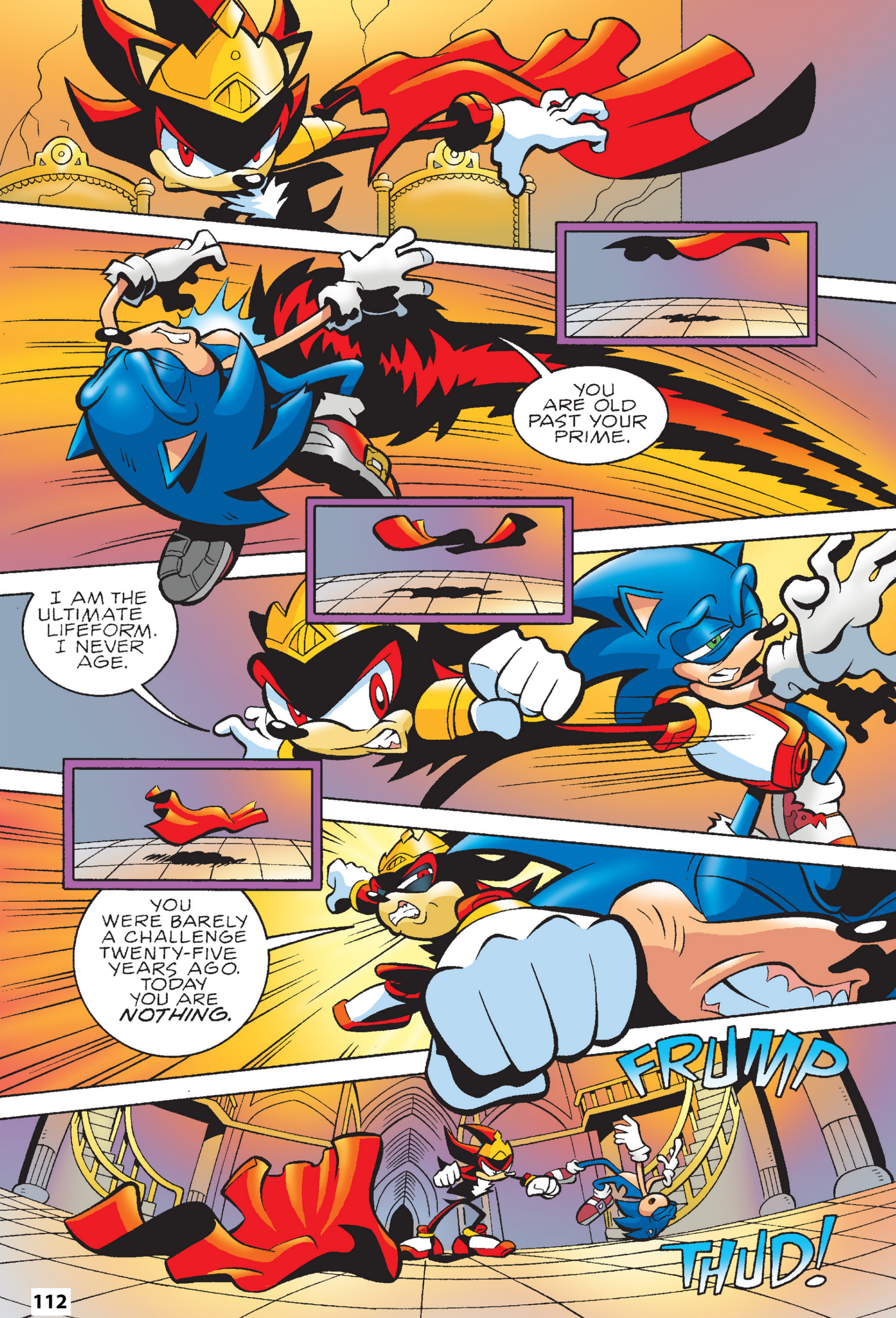

THE CATACOMBS BENEATH CASTLE MOBIUS.
BRINGS BACK MEMORIES, DOESN'T IT?
I CAN'T *BELIEVE* DAD LOCKED ME UP! WHEN I TELL MOM, SHE'S GONNA FLIP!
YEP. YOU, ME, AND A PRISON THAT WILL SURELY LEAD TO OUR END.
HOW CAN YOU ALL JOKE AT A TIME LIKE THIS? KING SHADOW WILL SHOW US NO MERCY. THERE IS NO HOPE FOR ANY OF US NOW.
I'LL SAY. RUTAN WILL NEVER LET ME HEAR THE END OF THIS.
HOW CAN YOU ACT LIKE THAT IN A TIME LIKE THIS?
BECAUSE...
...SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF A *GUARDIAN.*

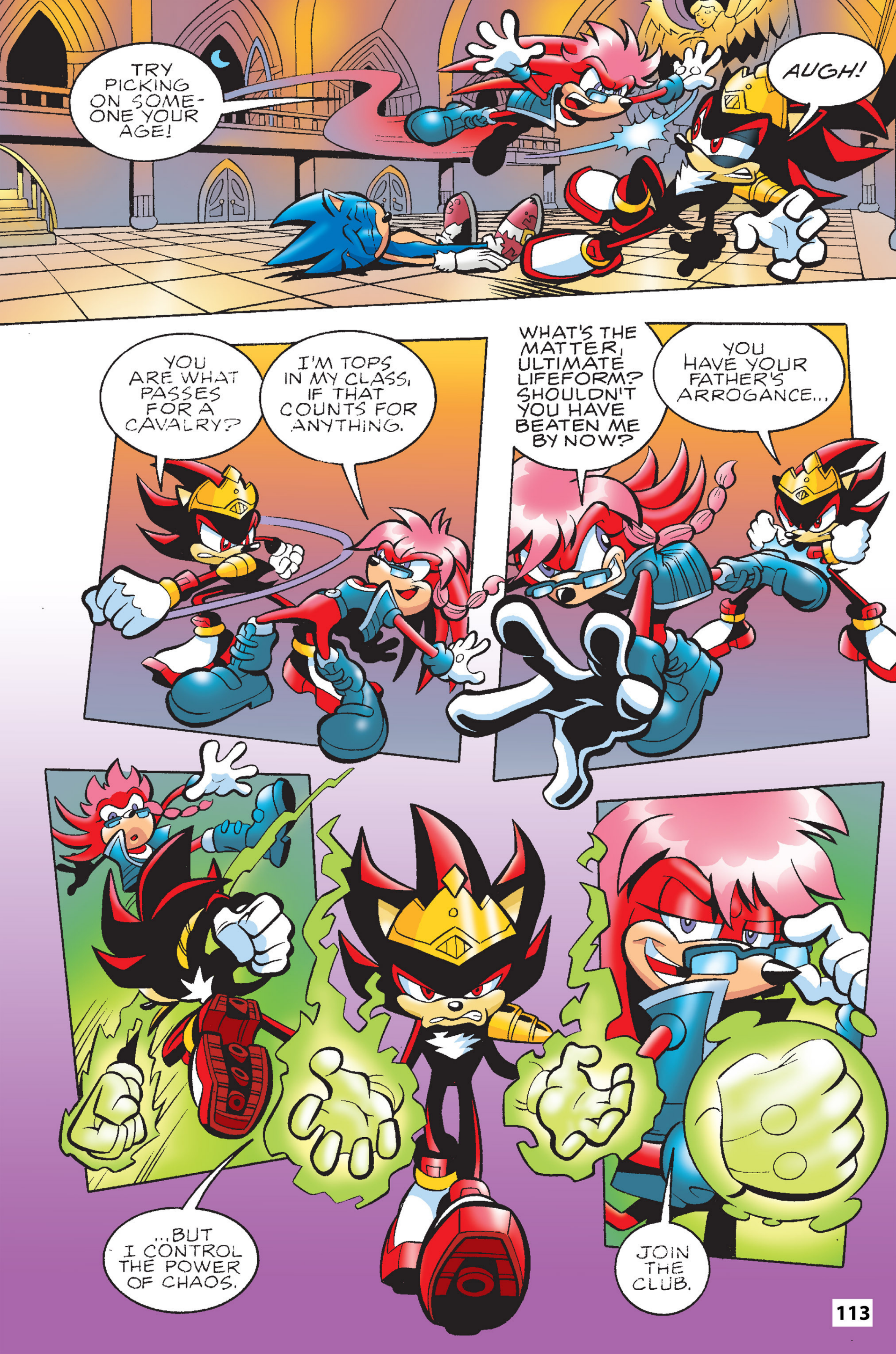

I'M NOT SURPRISED A COUPLE OF LUNATICS LIKE YOU WOULD WIND UP LIKE THIS.
BUT MY OWN DAUGHTER...
I DID WHAT WAS RIGHT, AND YOU KNOW IT! I WON'T APOLOGIZE OR ASK FORGIVE--
...I COULDN'T BE PROUDER.
BEEP
WAIT... YOU PLANNED THIS ALL ALONG?!
OF COURSE WE DID. DID, YOU REALLY THINK I'D ARREST YOU FOR REAL?
ME? SURE.
MILES AND LARA-SU? *NAH.*

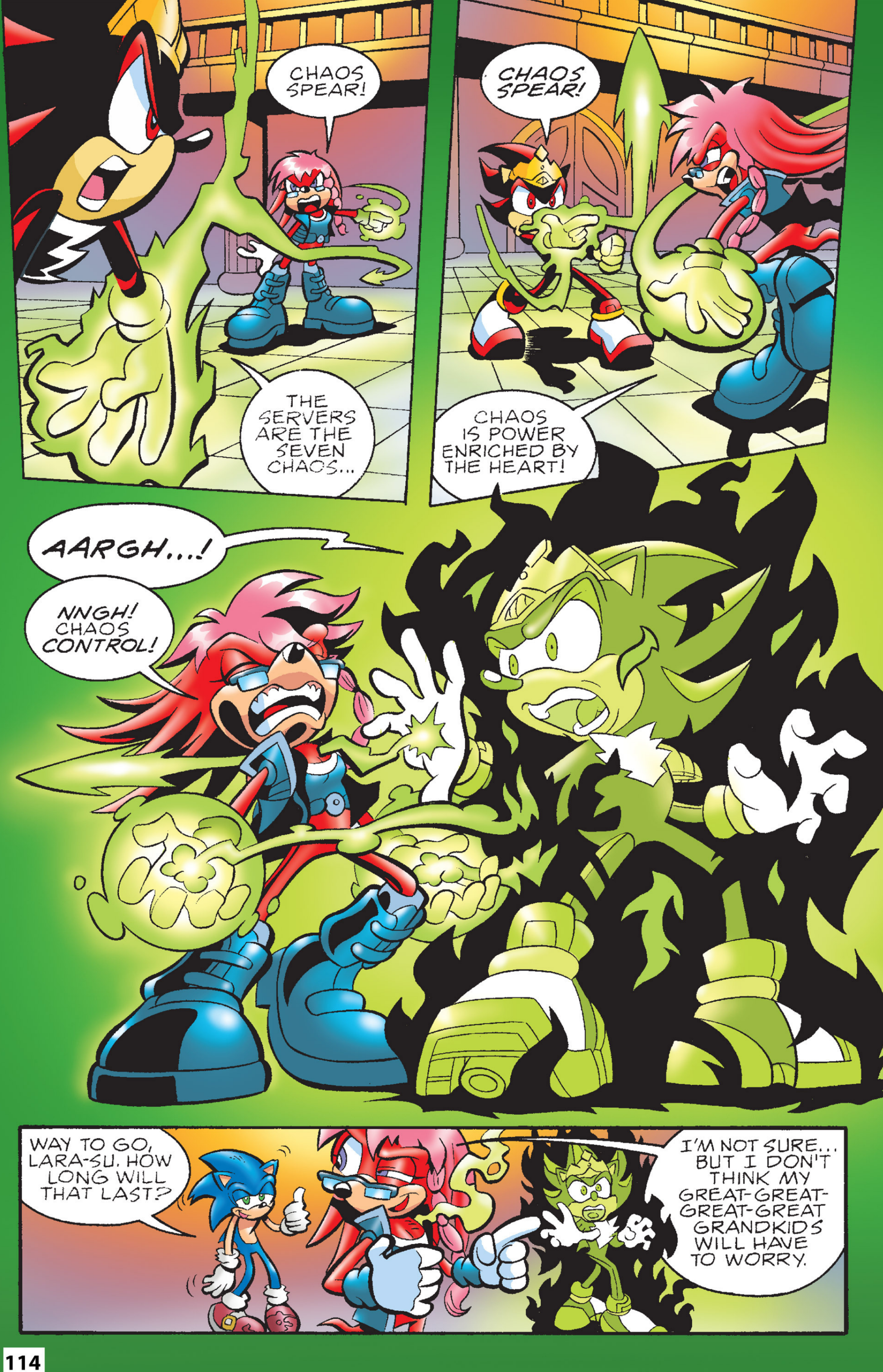

I'LL HACK INTO THE CASTLE'S SYSTEM AND MAKE SURE YOU AND KNUCKLES HAVE A CLEAR PATH. HE'LL GET QUEEN SALLY TO SAFETY SO THE MONARCHY REMAINS SOMEWHAT STABLE. THAT LEAVES...
SHADOW FOR ME. GOT IT.
DID YOU KNOW I WAS LISTENING IN?
I WAS HOPING SO, AND THAT YOU'D REBEL LIKE THAT.
YOU THINK YOU KNOW ME PRETTY WELL, DON'TCHA?
YOU ARE YOUR MOTHER'S DAUGHTER.
SO WHAT'S MY PART IN THE PLAN?
GET ROTOR TO THE NEAREST HOSPITAL AS FAST AS YOU CAN.
WHAT?! BUT YOU COULD USE MY HELP TO...
BUT YOU ARE HELPING. A GUARDIAN PROTECTS ALL THE PEOPLE, LARA-SU. YOU NEED TO START WITH THIS ONE.
I UNDERSTAND, DADDY. I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM.
I KNOW YOU WILL.

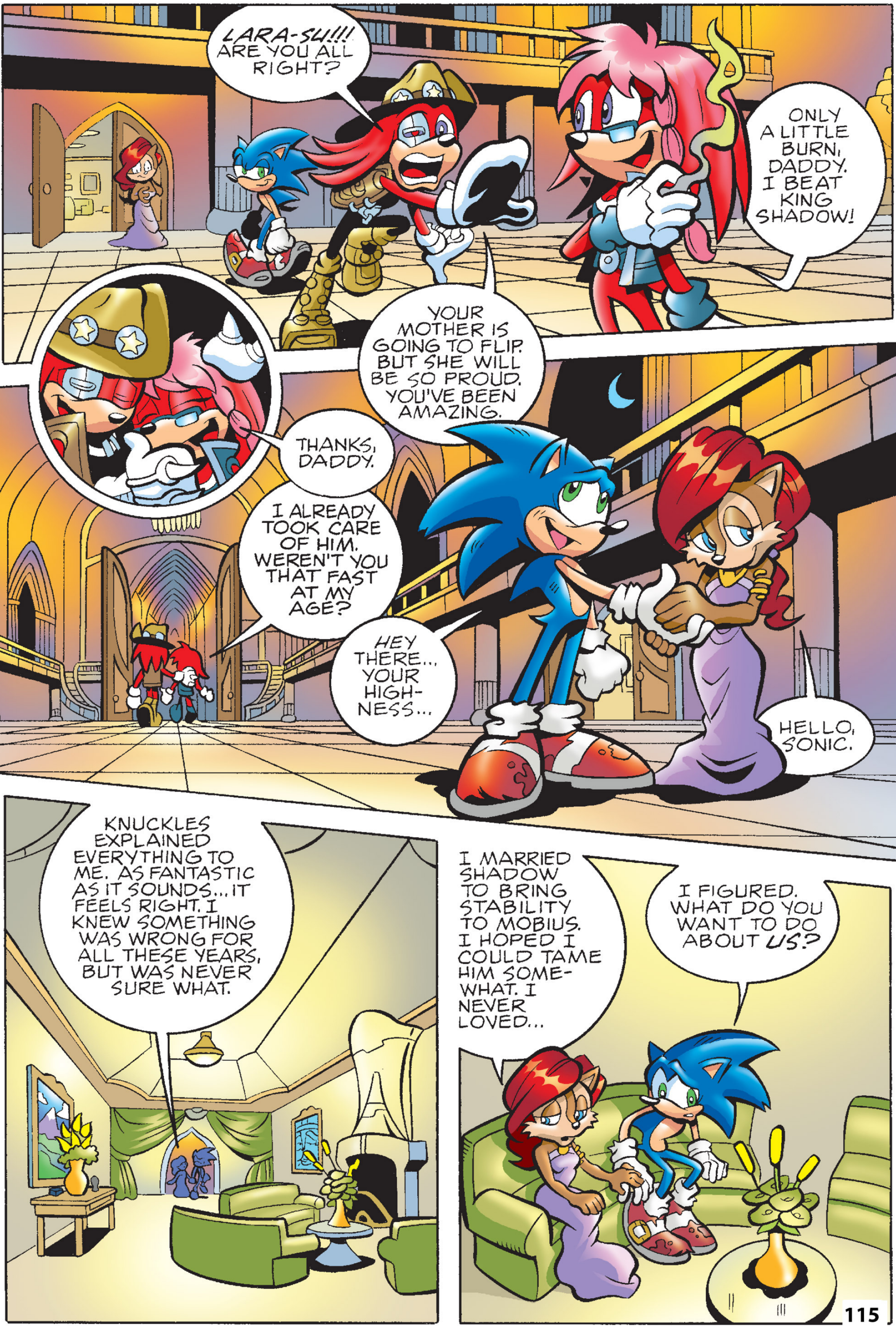

LET'S DO IT TO IT.
ONE LAST TIME.
YOU HAVE YOUR FATHER'S STRENGTH.
UMPH! GOOD THING, TOO.
KCHAK
VRMMMM
I'M TURNING AGAINST MY OWN FORCES. I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL GUILTY.
SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK THEY'LL HOLD IT AGAINST YOU.
WHO ORDERED THE EXTRA-LARGE BUTT-WHOOPING, HEAVY ON THE POETIC JUSTICE?
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON THAT SINCE YOU WERE ARRESTED, HAVEN'T YOU?
YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT.

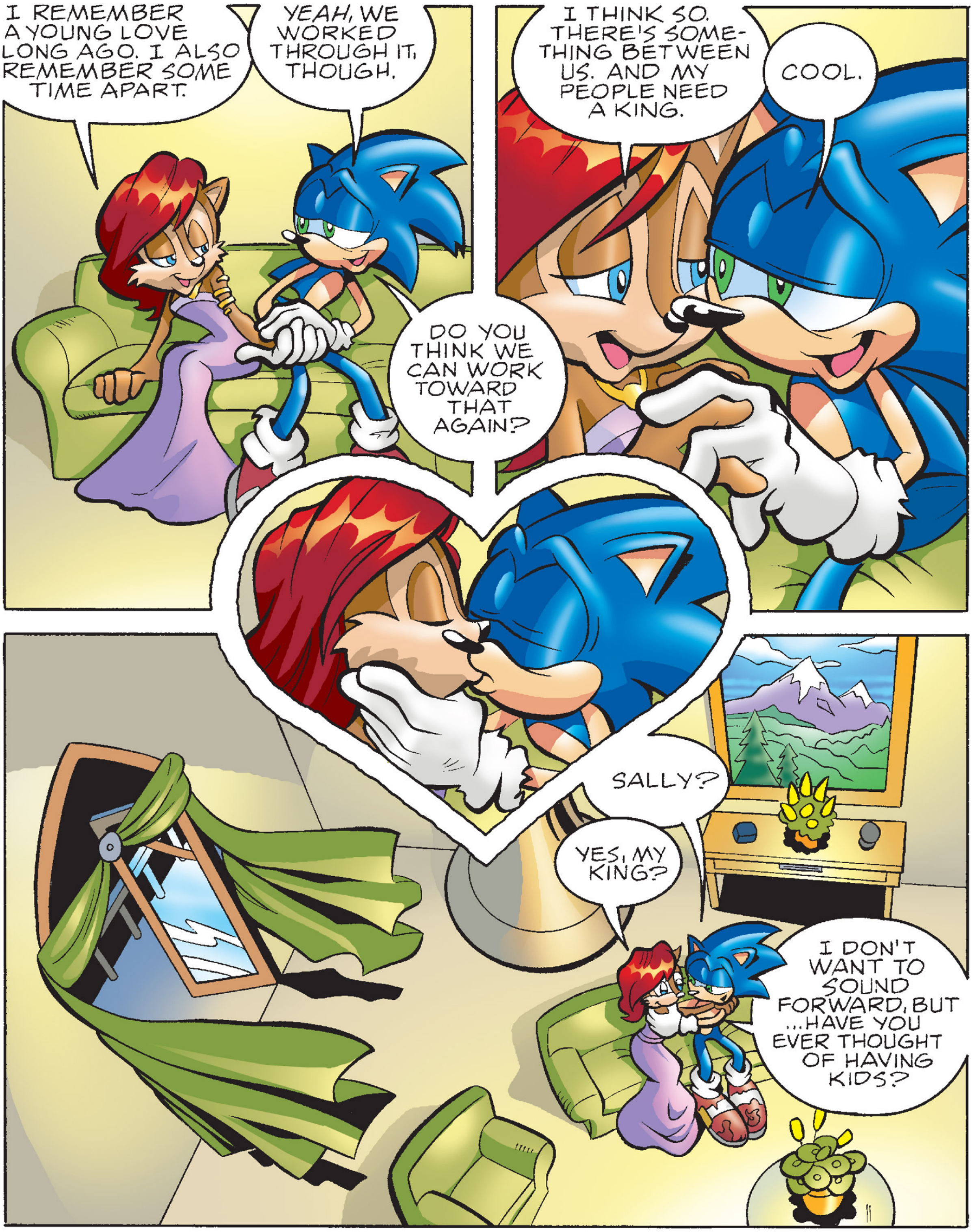

QUEEN SALLY, I ASK THAT YOU COME WITH ME.
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU RETURNED, *KING SONIC.*
NO LOVE LOST, MY QUEEN?
YOU *KNOW* ABOUT THE OTHER TIMELINE?
OF COURSE.
LIEN-DA ASIDE, I AM THE MASTER OF TIME AND SPACE. REMEMBER CHAOS CONTROL?
NOW THAT SALLY'S SAFE--BATTLE ROYAL TIME!
UM...


YOU ARE OLD PAST YOUR PRIME.
I AM THE ULTIMATE LIFEFORM. I NEVER AGE.
YOU WERE BARELY A CHALLENGE TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO. TODAY YOU ARE *NOTHING*.
FRUMP
THUD!


TRY PICKING ON SOMEONE YOUR AGE!
AUGH!
YOU ARE WHAT PASSES FOR A CAVALRY?
I'M TOPS IN MY CLASS, IF THAT COUNTS FOR ANYTHING.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, ULTIMATE LIFEFORM? SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE BEATEN ME BY NOW?
YOU HAVE YOUR FATHER'S ARROGANCE...
...BUT I CONTROL THE POWER OF CHAOS.
JOIN THE CLUB.


CHAOS SPEAR!
CHAOS SPEAR!
THE SERVERS ARE THE SEVEN CHAOS...
CHAOS IS POWER ENRICHED BY THE HEART!
AARGH...!
NNGH! CHAOS CONTROL!
WAY TO GO, LARA-SU. HOW LONG WILL THAT LAST?
I'M NOT SURE... BUT I DON'T THINK MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRANDKIDS WILL HAVE TO WORRY.


LARA-SU!!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
ONLY A LITTLE BURN, DADDY. I BEAT KING SHADOW!
YOUR MOTHER IS GOING TO FLIP. BUT SHE WILL BE SO PROUD. YOU'VE BEEN AMAZING.
THANKS, DADDY.
I ALREADY TOOK CARE OF HIM. WEREN'T YOU THAT FAST AT MY AGE?
HEY THERE... YOUR HIGHNESS...
HELLO, SONIC.
KNUCKLES EXPLAINED EVERYTHING TO ME. AS FANTASTIC AS IT SOUNDS... IT FEELS RIGHT. I KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG FOR ALL THESE YEARS, BUT WAS NEVER SURE WHAT.
I MARRIED SHADOW TO BRING STABILITY TO MOBIUS. I HOPED I COULD TAME HIM SOMEWHAT. I NEVER LOVED...
I FIGURED. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ABOUT *US?*


I REMEMBER A YOUNG LOVE LONG AGO. I ALSO REMEMBER SOME TIME APART.
YEAH, WE WORKED THROUGH IT, THOUGH.
DO YOU THINK WE CAN WORK TOWARD THAT AGAIN?
I THINK SO. THERE'S SOMETHING BETWEEN US. AND MY PEOPLE NEED A KING.
COOL.
SALLY?
YES, MY KING?
I DON'T WANT TO SOUND FORWARD, BUT ...HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF HAVING KIDS?

TO BE CONTINUED IN SONIC UNIVERSE VOL.2 GRAPHIC NOVEL - ON SALE NOW!

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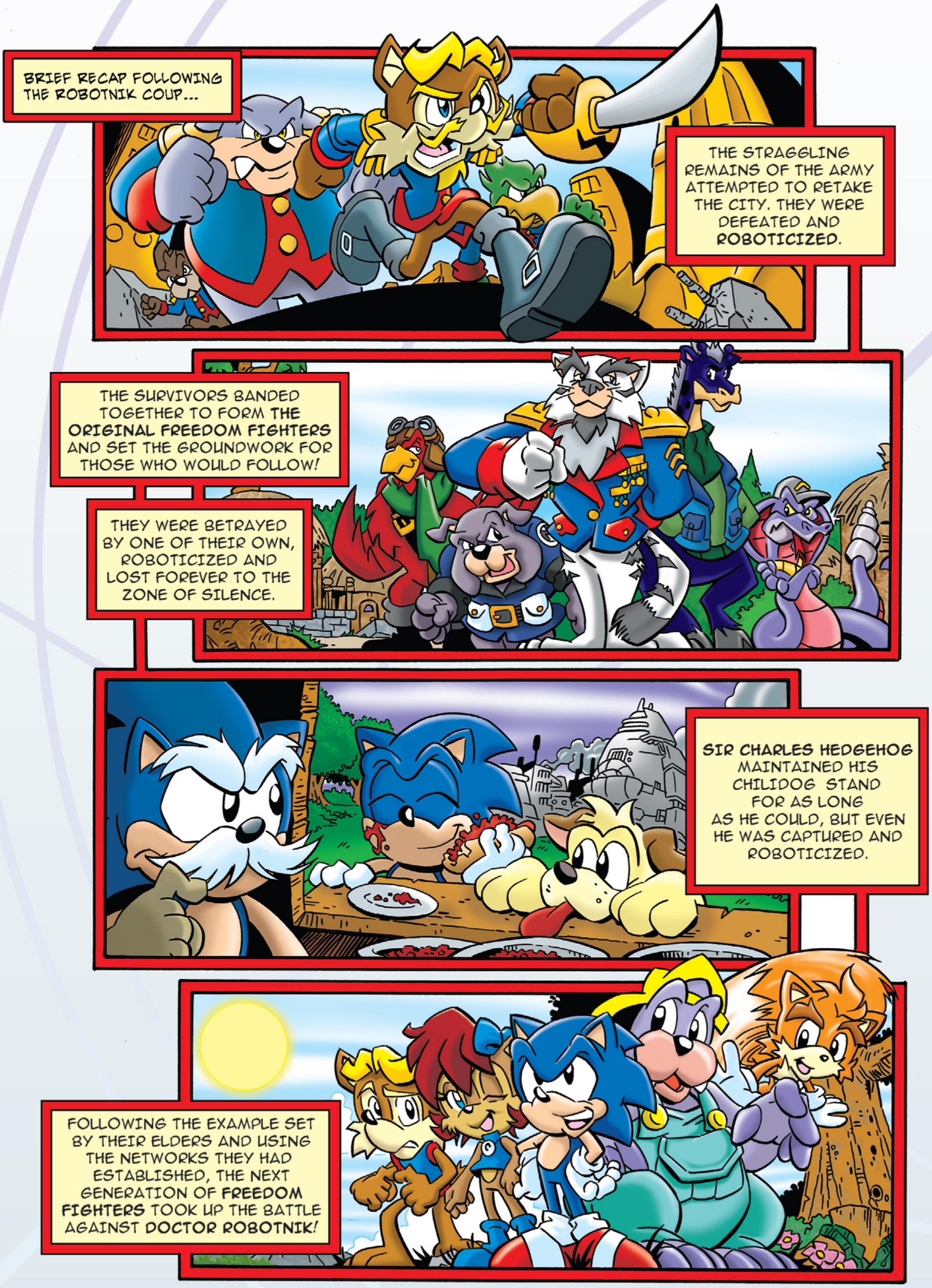
MOBIUS TIMELINE

Past

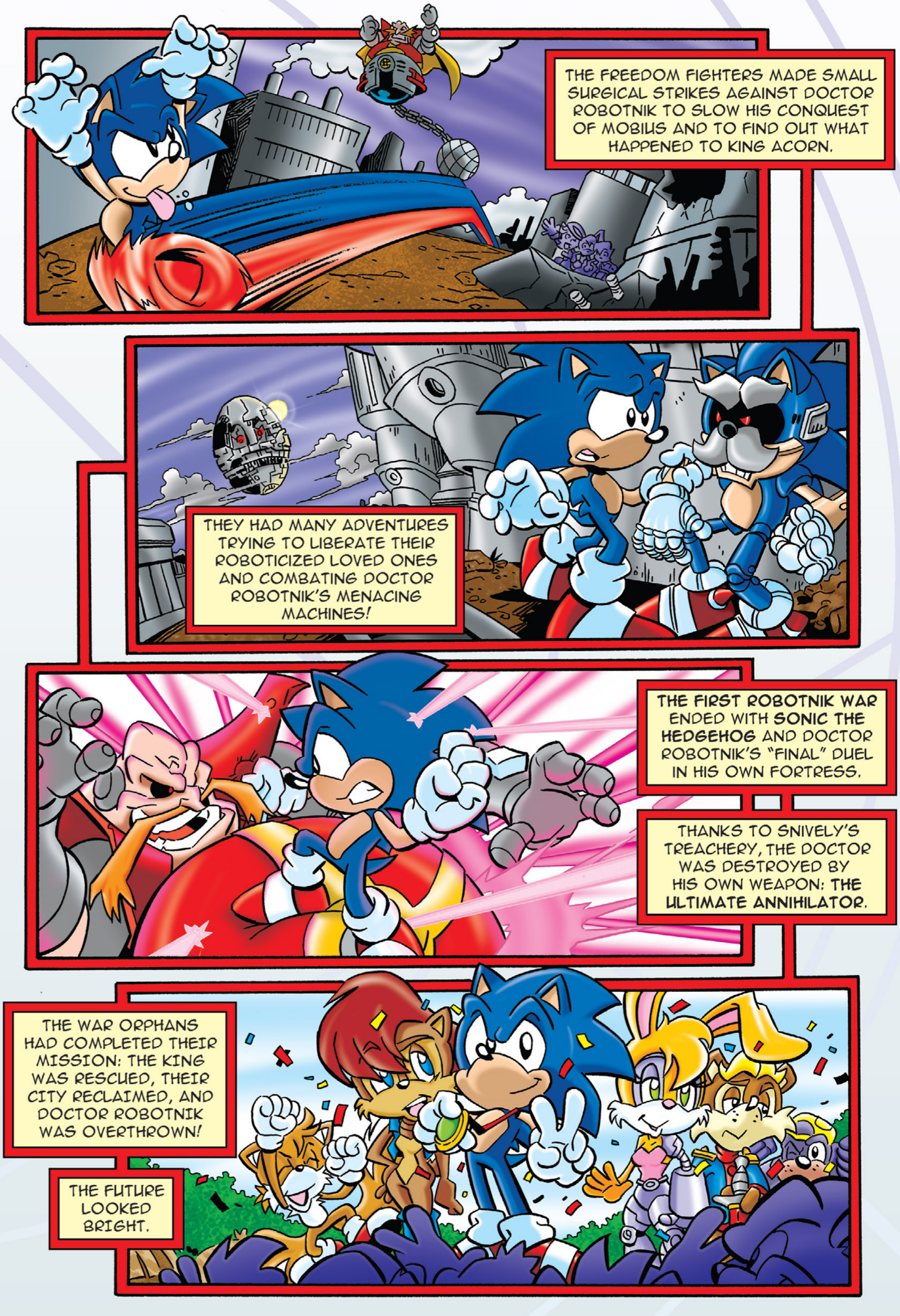
ACT 16 ROBOTROPOLIS RISING!

ACTS 1-15 AVAILABLE IN SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE #'S 1-3 ON SALE NOW!


BRIEF RECAP FOLLOWING THE ROBOTNIK COUP...
THE STRAGGLING REMAINS OF THE ARMY ATTEMPTED TO RETAKE THE CITY. THEY WERE DEFEATED AND **ROBOTICIZED**.
THE SURVIVORS BANDED TOGETHER TO FORM **THE ORIGINAL FREEDOM FIGHTERS** AND SET THE GROUNDWORK FOR THOSE WHO WOULD FOLLOW!
THEY WERE BETRAYED BY ONE OF THEIR OWN, ROBOTICIZED AND LOST FOREVER TO THE ZONE OF SILENCE.
SIR CHARLES HEDGEHOG MAINTAINED HIS CHILIDOG STAND FOR AS LONG AS HE COULD, BUT EVEN HE WAS CAPTURED AND ROBOTICIZED.
FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE SET BY THEIR ELDERS AND USING THE NETWORKS THEY HAD ESTABLISHED, THE NEXT GENERATION OF **FREEDOM FIGHTERS** TOOK UP THE BATTLE AGAINST **DOCTOR ROBOTNIK**!

MOBIUS TIMELINE

ACT 17 THE FIRST ROBOTNIK WAR



THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS MADE SMALL SURGICAL STRIKES AGAINST DOCTOR ROBOTNIK TO SLOW HIS CONQUEST OF MOBIUS AND TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO KING ACORN.

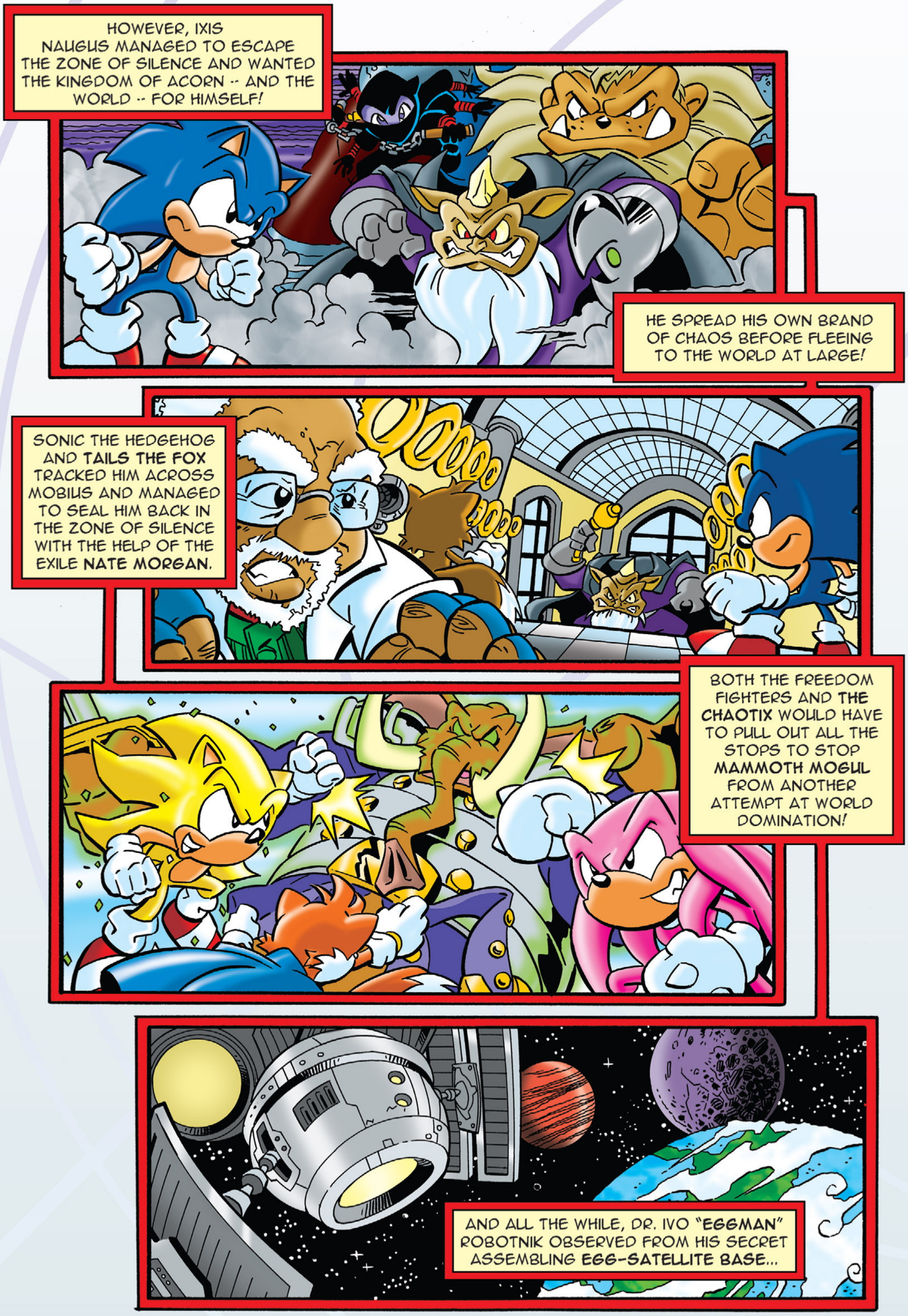
THEY HAD MANY ADVENTURES TRYING TO LIBERATE THEIR ROBOTICIZED LOVED ONES AND COMBATING DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S MENACING MACHINES!

THE FIRST ROBOTNIK WAR ENDED WITH **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** AND DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S "FINAL" DUEL IN HIS OWN FORTRESS.

THANKS TO SNIVELY'S TREACHERY, THE DOCTOR WAS DESTROYED BY HIS OWN WEAPON: **THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR**.

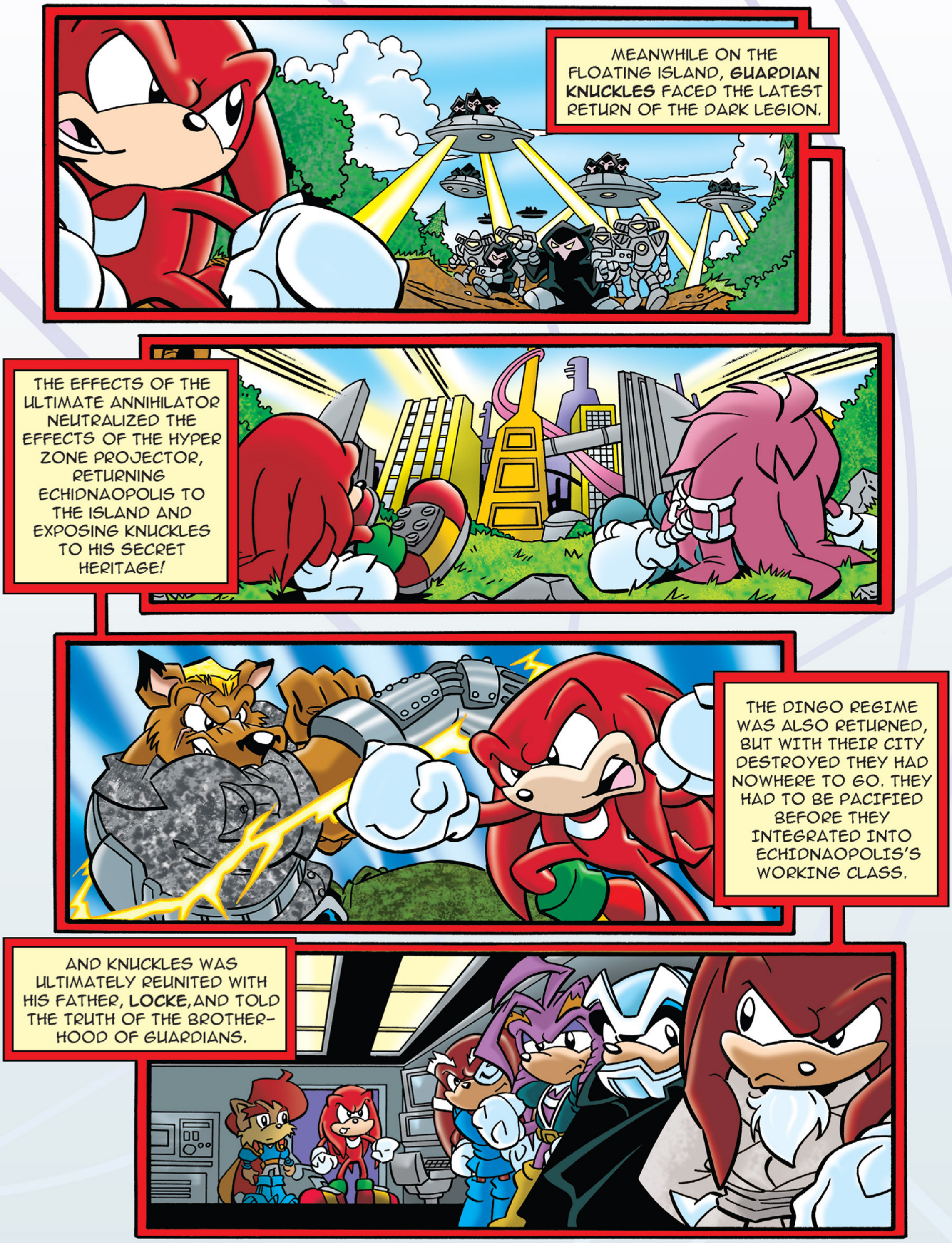
THE WAR ORPHANS HAD COMPLETED THEIR MISSION: THE KING WAS RESCUED, THEIR CITY RECLAIMED, AND DOCTOR ROBOTNIK WAS OVERTHROWN!

THE FUTURE LOOKED BRIGHT.


HOWEVER, IXIS NAUGUS MANAGED TO ESCAPE THE ZONE OF SILENCE AND WANTED THE KINGDOM OF ACORN -- AND THE WORLD -- FOR HIMSELF!
HE SPREAD HIS OWN BRAND OF CHAOS BEFORE FLEEING TO THE WORLD AT LARGE!
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG AND **TAILS THE FOX** TRACKED HIM ACROSS MOBIUS AND MANAGED TO SEAL HIM BACK IN THE ZONE OF SILENCE WITH THE HELP OF THE EXILE **NATE MORGAN**.
BOTH THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND **THE CHAOTIX** WOULD HAVE TO PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS TO STOP **MAMMOTH MOGUL** FROM ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT WORLD DOMINATION!
AND ALL THE WHILE, DR. IVO "**EGGMAN**" ROBOTNIK OBSERVED FROM HIS SECRET ASSEMBLING **EGG-SATELLITE BASE**...

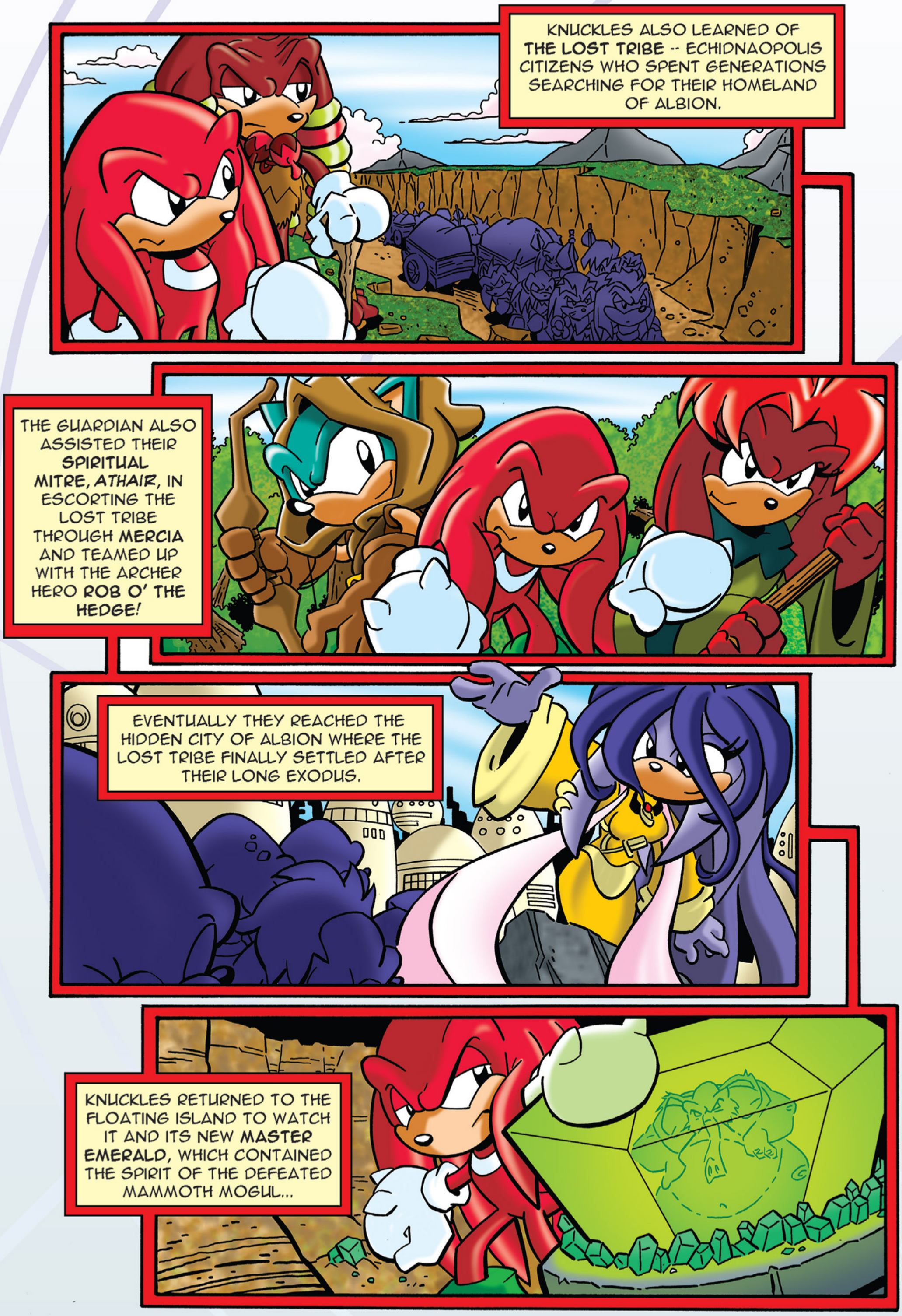
MOBIUS TIMELINE

ACT 19 THE RETURN OF ECHIDNAOPOLIS!


MEANWHILE ON THE FLOATING ISLAND, **GUARDIAN KNUCKLES** FACED THE LATEST RETURN OF THE DARK LEGION.
THE EFFECTS OF THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR NEUTRALIZED THE EFFECTS OF THE HYPER ZONE PROJECTOR, RETURNING ECHIDNAOPOLIS TO THE ISLAND AND EXPOSING KNUCKLES TO HIS SECRET HERITAGE!
THE DINGO REGIME WAS ALSO RETURNED, BUT WITH THEIR CITY DESTROYED THEY HAD NOWHERE TO GO. THEY HAD TO BE PACIFIED BEFORE THEY INTEGRATED INTO ECHIDNAOPOLIS'S WORKING CLASS.
AND KNUCKLES WAS ULTIMATELY REUNITED WITH HIS FATHER, **LOCKE**, AND TOLD THE TRUTH OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF GUARDIANS.

MOBIUS TIMELINE

ACT 20 THE LOST TRIBE


KNUCKLES ALSO LEARNED OF **THE LOST TRIBE** -- ECHIDNAOPOLIS CITIZENS WHO SPENT GENERATIONS SEARCHING FOR THEIR HOMELAND OF ALBION.
THE GUARDIAN ALSO ASSISTED THEIR **SPIRITUAL MITRE, *ATHAIR*,** IN ESCORTING THE LOST TRIBE THROUGH **MERCIA** AND TEAMED UP WITH THE ARCHER HERO **ROB O' THE HEDGE!**
EVENTUALLY THEY REACHED THE HIDDEN CITY OF ALBION WHERE THE LOST TRIBE FINALLY SETTLED AFTER THEIR LONG EXODUS.
KNUCKLES RETURNED TO THE FLOATING ISLAND TO WATCH IT AND ITS NEW **MASTER EMERALD,** WHICH CONTAINED THE SPIRIT OF THE DEFEATED MAMMOTH MOGUL...

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

INTERVIEW WITH -
STEVEN BUTLER
- ARTIST -

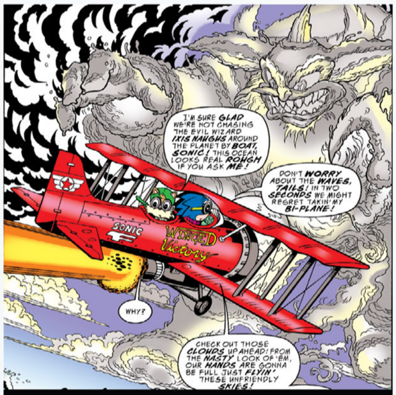
STEVEN BUTLER
LONG-TIME SONIC PENCILLER

SSSM: Steven, you are the longest running (ha!) Sonic the Hedgehog interior penciler in the comics nineteen-year history! You're in such esteemed company as Spaz, Jim Amash, and James Fry! What got you started in comic's?

SB: Ha!! Now you're making me feel old!! Anyway, I've always loved comic books, since way before the days of comic book shops -- when you could find them in spinner racks at the local pharmacy and/ or grocery store. I loved superhero stuff the best, but I also loved westerns, horror, and the humor stuff. I remember sitting around on the living room floor copying the figures from the panels. I guess you could say comics were what got me into art. I was always known as "the guy that draws stuff," but didn't really think I could make a living from drawing comics until my college years at the University of Southern Mississippi. It was toward the end of the 90's that I started working for particular company with which I am still associated, and who publishes the adventures of a certain blue speedster.

SSSM: Your style marked a departure for the Sonic comics into a more detail-oriented art style. Your style was one of the key influences on the overall tone of the comic as it transitioned from a humor title to a superhero book. How did you happen upon your first Sonic penciling gig, and what were some of your Sonic stylistic inspirations?

SB: Hmmm, well I wish I could say it was all a "grand scheme" on my part to change the tone of the Sonic comic to a superhero book, but I'm afraid I'd be lying. Here's how it started -- In 1997, I got a call from Pam Eklund, who was my inker on another comic title. She was inking the Sonic the Hedgehog book for Archie, and asked me if I'd be interested in doing some work on the title. I told her I was indeed interested, and she gave me the editor's info. I called him up, and he gave me a back up to draw (featuring that nasty no-goodnik Ixis Naugus), and the next thing I knew, I was the regular penciler on the book for an extended run. My initial run is being collected in the Sonic Archives right now, and that, too, makes me feel old -- ha! Since then, I've drawn the title on an off-and-on basis, and I've seen many changes happen on the book -- both to the storylines and the characters. I have loved every minute of it. I'm hoping I get to continue drawing the Sonic title in some form or fashion for a long time. As for "changing the tone," I don't think I can really take credit for that. I remember seeing the original Sonic Super Special "Mecha Madness" and being blown away with how good it was. Patrick Spaziante hit the art on that one out of the park, and I suppose it was the look of that one book that set the tone for me as I started drawing my run. So, hats off to Patrick Spaziante -- he started it!!

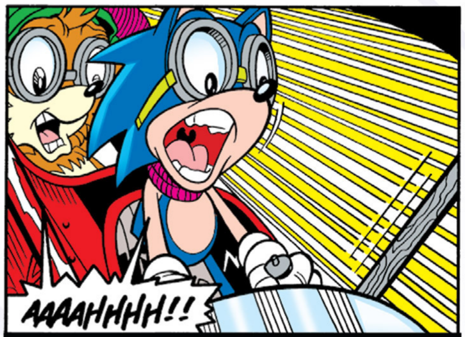

I'M SURE GLAD WE'RE NOT CHASING THE EVIL WIZARD IXIS NAUGUS AROUND THE PLANET BY BOAT, SONIC! THIS OCEAN LOOKS REAL ROUGH IF YOU ASK ME!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE WAVES, TAILS! IN TWO SECONDS WE MIGHT REGRET TAKIN' MY BI-PLANE!
SONIC
WINGED Victory
WHY?
CHECK OUT THOSE CLOUDS UP AHEAD! FROM THE NASTY LOOK OF 'EM, OUR HANDS ARE GONNA BE FULL JUST FLYIN' THESE UNFRIENDLY SKIES!

THE BEGINNING
BUTLER'S EARLIEST WORK AS SEEN IN STH #61, WHICH IS COLLECTED IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 16, AVAILABLE NOW!

SSSM: Your Sonic model has evolved over time, can you tell us a little bit about how your style reflects the current world of Sonic, while still maintaining the look and feel of the book's history?

SB: Hoo boy!! Confession time -- this'll probably get rotten

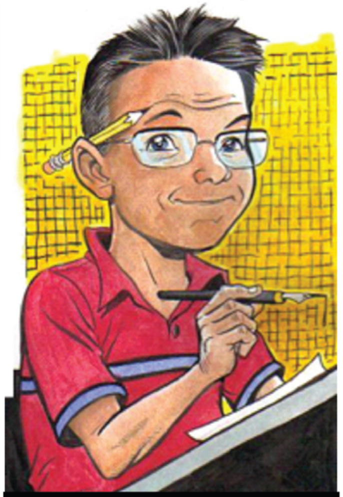
AUGH!
SHOOOOM



MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY!

SONIC AND TAILS ARE GOING DOWN IN "TOTAL TURBULENCE"!

tomatoes thrown at me from the fans, but here goes- I'm not a video game player, and have never played a Sonic game all the way through to the end (Whoa!! Duck!! Here come the tomatoes!!). Seriously, I'm from another generation, and just never caught the bug. However, my kids are avid video game players, and Sonic is their favorite character, of course, so I keep up with pretty much everything that comes out concerning the characters.



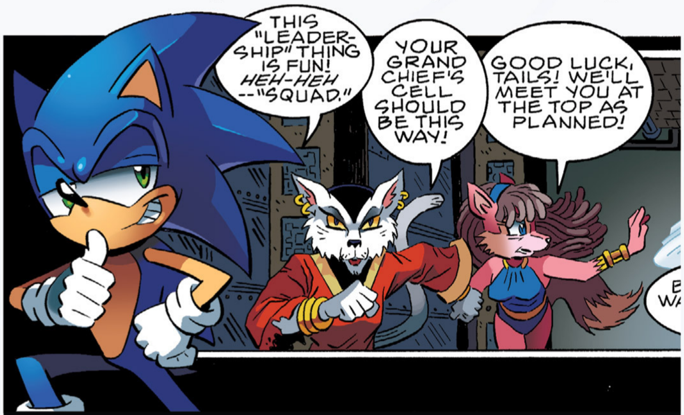
AWESOME ART!

STEVEN IS DIVERSE IN MANY MEDIUMS OF ART, ASIDE FROM HIS USUAL PENCIL WORK.

Pretty much my entire relationship with Sonic is from working on the Archie Comic. I've changed my work a little to reflect the current look of the characters as established by Tracy, Ben, and Jamal. Working on the Sonic X books helped in that regard too, because we had to draw the characters more on "model" with the TV series. It kind of gently forced me to refine my style to suit the modern look. I guess that's one of the things that I like about drawing the book for so long -- it's always reinventing itself story-wise and especially visually -- always staying fresh and exciting. (Still have a soft spot for the Dave Manak/ Art Mawhinney days, too!)

SSSM: You've worked extensively on the "25 Years Later" story re-presented in this very magazine! Can you tell us a little about how you went about designing the future of planet Mobius?

SB: Ahhh!! Now you're taxing my brain! Let's see, I remember really enjoying drawing Knuckles with the Australian cowboy hat and the bionic eye. I suppose I tried my best to "futurize" things as much as possible. Making Rotor look really old was a fun departure. I also remember really enjoying drawing the kids of Sonic and Knuckles a lot. I remember that series being very character-driven, without a lot of over-the-top action, which I'm better known for. It was a challenge for me, to keep it interesting in the quiet moments. Since then, I've done quite a few more of those kinds of character-driven stories, but I believe the "25 Years Later" run was a first for me. I'm pretty proud of the way it turned out.


THIS "LEADERSHIP" THING IS FUN! HEH-HEH --"SQUAD."
YOUR GRAND CHIEF'S CELL SHOULD BE THIS WAY!
GOOD LUCK, TAILS! WE'LL MEET YOU AT THE TOP AS PLANNED!

HUNGRY LIKE THE WOLFPACK

STEVEN'S LATEST ART CAN BE SEEN IN THE TWO PART STORY, "LOYALTY" IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #237-238.

SSSM: You've got some awesome stories coming up in the Sonic the Hedgehog title slated for release throughout the summer months -- any teasers for the fans out there?

SB: Lots of intense action! Rotor has his time to shine! (Love drawing him in that cool bio-battle suit he wears now) Elias and the Secret Freedom Fighters kick all kinds of robotic rear ends!! I could go on, but I won't! Pick up a copy and judge for yourself!!

Tracy Yardley!
Hunzeker